

Election 2000

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Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983

THE ENERGIZES PARTY

Record number turn out for New Jersey primary

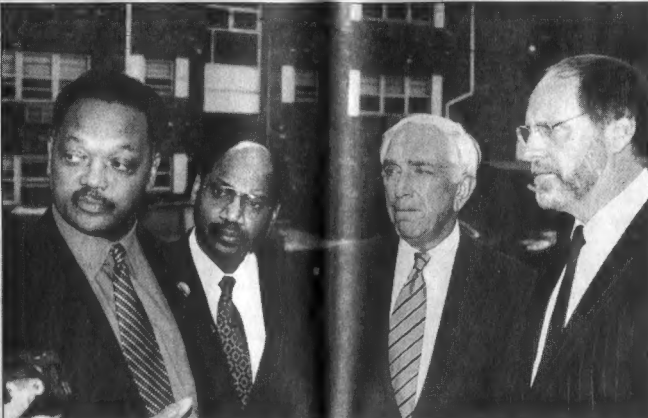
By Gilda Rogers, Erica Johnson, and Rob Williams

EAST BRUNSWICK — Democratic senatorial candidate Jon Corzine won the New Jersey Senate race primary race in Tuesday's election making him the Democratic candidate to run against Republican Bob Franks for senior Senator Frank Lautenberg's seat in November.

Corzine received 58 percent of the vote totaling 246,045,000, while former New Jersey Governor Jim Florio numbers tallied up to 42 percent of the vote at 179,053. Essex County had the highest percentage of voters — 77 percent — who turned out in support of Corzine totaling 45,290 votes versus Florio's 28 percent with 13,837 votes. These numbers represent the largest turnout in a New Jersey senatorial primary. Corzine also posted huge numbers in Hudson, Union, and Middlesex Counties — areas most heavily populated with black people. Corzine commanded a resounding lead in the election garnering 79 percent (32,505) of the vote in Hudson County, with Union County coming in second with 68 percent (26,486) and 58 percent (24,252) of the vote in Middlesex County rounding out third-place.

Republican senatorial candidates Bob Franks and William Gormley ran a tight-race with Franks winning the Republican nomination with 48 percent of the vote totaling 35,801. Gormley secured 35 percent of the vote at 52,454. In one of the most highly touted senatorial campaigns in New Jersey, Corzine's biggest challenge was name recognition. The former Goldman and Sachs executive entered the race as a virtual unknown with no political experience and waged an impressive race against Florio.

City News after conducting exit polls at various sites around the state, the consensus was that many New Jerseyans still harbor resentment toward Florio for his 2.8 billion dollar tax increase during his tenure as governor. In these instances voters were casting their vote against Florio by voting for Corzine and referred to Corzine as "the lesser of the two evils." Despite the Florio disdain, he still ran a strong campaign garnering endorsements from the



From left to right: Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rev. David Jefferson, Sen. Frank Lautenberg, and Democratic Senate candidate Jon Corzine.

Philadelphia Inquirer, the Trenton Times, and the Jersey Journal. Florio captured 77 percent of the vote (27,607) in Camden County.

Yet, Corzine managed to overcome his no-name status with the endorsements of several prominent figures such as Newark Mayor, Sharpe James, Congressman Donald Payne and the incumbent Sen. Lautenberg. "The seat I occupy in the Senate I treasure," said Sen. Lautenberg. "When I decided to retire and considered a successor, I knew we had to have a candidate who could win and one who cares about the issues we care about: public schools, the elderly, and higher education. I labored a long time, and I feel confident, that Jon Corzine is the best candidate to continue the work I started on behalf of the people of the State of New Jersey."

Mayor Sharpe James also released a

statement, stating that Corzine is on his way.

"Jon Corzine took a high road in this election and stuck to the issues and the facts. He offered bold ideas and spoke out on matters that we all care about, including pre-school opportunities for all children, universal access to healthcare and strong voter registration initiatives, and New Jersey Democrats responded," said Sharpe.

Other endorsements included Rev. Jesse Jackson, who was in Orange on Monday stump for Corzine at St. Matthews AME Church, where he spoke frankly about Corzine's estimated \$400 million bank roll, which has been attacked by Florio and other opponents.

"Many people have spoken of how much money Jon Corzine has," said Jackson. "The issue for me is not his private wealth, but his commitment to

public health. If Jon Corzine will stand for universal healthcare and for sending our children to college, then we should stand with him. There's no reason to leave Wall Street if you've mastered Wall Street."

Corzine continued: "We want a new Jersey and a new day for the American people. We need leadership in high places. We need leadership who will see beyond the ordinary. The choice is upon us. I choose to support Jon Corzine because of his vision for healthcare for all, because of his vision for education for all, it's healing time. It's hope time. It's Corzine Time."

Corzine all along has never shied from admitting he is no politician, but rather a concerned citizen. And this is the message he reverberated throughout his campaign. He was one of the guest speakers at City News' Biz Tech 2000. He also made an appearance at



Jim Florio



Republican primary winner Bob Franks

Courtesy of Bob Franks for Senate

Conferees.

Rev. Reginald Jackson, who is the pastor of St. Matthew's AME Church, is also the executive director of the Ministers Council of New Jersey. The Black Council at the behest of Rev. Jackson came aboard early on as a Corzine supporter.

"In all of my public life in New Jersey, I have never endorsed a candidate in the primary," said Rev. Jackson. "Several people wanted to know why I'm doing something different this time. There are different circumstances that require different decisions. I listened to the candidates, and Jon Corzine had a message that spoke to the issues that are important. He said the quality of a child's education should not be determined by their zip code. He said that

see CORZINE Page A8

Vice President AL Gore outlines platform to African American press

By Raoul Dennis

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — In an exclusive NNPA interview with Vice President Al Gore, the candidate for president discussed his positions on police violence and profiling, education, employment and the recently signed African trade law.

TRADE WITH AFRICA: "Africa represents an exciting new market for American businesses. Naturally, the African American entrepreneur will have entry to many countries and that will be very exciting," Gore said. "For example, in South Africa, the percentage of African American businesses who have a business involvement with that country is higher than those companies doing similar business in Europe or Asia. We expect that to expand. When the continent is opened up, we will have access to more than 700 million people in business. Now [our access] is only six percent. This new legislation will increase that."

RACIAL PROFILING: "I want to develop national legislation around this problem and an executive order around police profiling," Gore said. "I have started this groundwork already. If it's not completed by the time this election has taken place, I intend to follow it through as

president."

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: "I support affirmative action because we still need it," Gore said. "I also support the national hate crimes law. I support strong enforcement of the civil rights laws that are on the books and increasing legislation where necessary."

EDUCATION: "Our educational system is in a state of national emergency," said the veteran public servant. "We can't allow our kids to sit in failing and deteriorating schools one more day."

Gore went on to say that his list of solutions to end problems with education included hiring bonuses of up to \$10,000 to attract new teachers. "We must trust our teachers more like professionals," Gore said, encouraging more African American males to become certified to teach. "We need more role models in schools," he continued. "We need Internet access in every classroom, universal pre-school programming, reduced class sizes and reworked and redeveloped school buildings. We must make this commitment to our children."

DISPLACED WORKERS: With regard to displaced workers in the textile and manufacturing



Vice President Al Gore

File photo

industries, Gore explained that rebuilding the skill sets of the American worker is a key factor in reducing unemployment in these fields. "The key to the textile workers issue is job training," Gore said. "Businesses are having trouble filling positions because they can't find skilled labor to fill those areas. My intention is to raise the level of job training in these areas so that we can place people in jobs that are critical to today's market."

Bollwege wins bitter challenge

By Kelly Foster

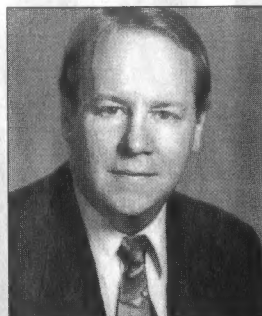
ELIZABETH — After a campaign strewn with mudslinging and personal attacks, Mayor Chris Bollwege, and his city council team emerged the victors in Tuesday's primary campaign, defeating former School Board President Rafael Fajardo. Bollwege and his council team, comprised of large council members Patricia Perkins-Aguste and Edward Jackus, and newcomer Frank Cuesta, won in all six wards of the city. Perkins-Aguste and Jackus are serving their third terms. Bollwege faces no Republican or independent opposition for the November general election.

According to an unofficial New Jersey Online results the day afterwards, Bollwege garnered 7,695 votes, opposed to Fajardo's 4,949 votes. Among his City Council team, Perkins-Aguste, won 4,322 votes, Jackus received 6,394 votes, and Cuesta got 6,254 votes, giving Bollwege supporters a 7-2 majority on the nine member Council.

Bollwege had been the city's 5th ward councilman for ten years before upsetting former Mayor Thomas Dunn in 1992. Bollwege's platform touted the improvements he's made since then. Among them are his efforts of reducing violent crime by 51 percent and overall crime by 37 percent, and dropping unemployment by more than 14 percent to 7.6 percent. Other main accomplishments of his tenure was the creation of the Jersey Gardens Mall as a former garbage dump, a project which created 5,000 jobs, and bringing hotel developers into the city.

Fajardo's team claimed that Bollwege ignored development in the midtown area and increased water bills for residents by privatizing the water department. He also criticized Bollwege for ignoring residents' wishes, raising taxes and selling the city's assets.

In a statement made before the election, Perkins-Aguste, the council's first and only Black councilwoman-at-large, said that while the Bollwege administration had accumulated much



Re-elected Elizabeth Mayor Chris Bollwege

File photo

for the city, the goal is on future accomplishments. "It's not about what we've done, it's about what we can still do," she commented. "We can go after more grants on the state and city level. The Mayor is talking about faith-based initiatives, and we're trying to build new homes. The city can be much better."

In a close 7th District House of Representatives race, which includes parts of Essex, Middlesex, Somerset, and Union counties, former Fanwood Mayor Maryanne Connelly squeaked by to win with 14,590 votes, or 45.3 percent, according to New Jersey Online results. Her nearest opponent, Union County Manager Michael Lapolla, received 14,422 votes, or 44.7 percent.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

NEWARK - The New Jersey Historical Society presents "Lunchtimes Are Fast Times" at 12:15 p.m. For further information, call (973) 596-8500.

GARFIELD - The Union County Coalition for the Prevention of Substance Abuse School Task Force is hosting "Tools for Preparing Your Leaders" at 8:30 a.m. For further information, call (908) 233-8180.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

UPPER MONTCLAIR - Montclair State University offers a free computer training session at 6:30 p.m. For further information, call (973) 582-8723.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

NEWARK - Essex County College offers a youth enrichment program. For further information, call (973) 877-3416 or 3436.

NEW YORK - Lincoln Center hosts the 24th Annual American Crafts Festival, from noon to 5 p.m. For further information, call (973) 746-0091.

JERSEY CITY - New Jersey City University will hold its eighth annual "Summer Reunion Bash" from 2:00-7:00 p.m. For further information, call (201) 200-3196.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15 (THROUGH JULY 2)

LINCROFT - The Monmouth County Park System presents "Anything Goes" and "Nursery" at 7 a.m. For further information, call (732) 842-4000, ext. 4237.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

NEWARK - New Jersey Historical Society hosts its Summer Exhibitions and Programs/Spring Community Family Festival. For further information, call (973) 596-8500 ext. 244.

NEWARK - The Alliance for Downtown New York presents C. Max Stevens at the National Museum of the American Indian. For further information, call (212) 566-6700.

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

GARWOOD - Help Our People Excel presents its 2nd Annual Fathers Day Banquet at 4 p.m. For further information, call (973) 596-8500 ext. 244.

mation call, (908) 486-2753.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

NEWARK - The New Jersey Institute for School Innovation hosts Dr. Henry Levin. For further information, call (973) 596-8500 ext. 201.

ADMINISTRATIVE - The Shering Network hosts a Golf Invitational at 11 a.m. For further information, call (973) 375-4535.

NEW BRUNSWICK - The New Jersey State Bar Foundation hosts a financial management seminar. For more information, call (800) FREE-LAW.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

NEWARK - New Jersey Historical Society presents a guided walking and restaurant tour of the Ironbound. For further information, call (973) 596-8500 ext. 244.

PLAINFIELD - Richmond Towers hosts its Annual Spring Cabaret at 8 p.m. For further information, call (908) 756-1653 or (908) 755-0095.

NEW YORK - The Alliance for Downtown New York presents its Liberty Challenge-World Outright Championship. For further information, call (212) 566-6700.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

PLAINFIELD - People Empowering People hosts a champagne garden party at 4:00 p.m. For further information, call (908) 325-0009.

NEWARK - Monty Python comes to NJPAC. For further information, call (973) 287-5638.

MONDAY, JUNE 26

MAPLEWOOD - Essex County College sponsors a scholarship tournament at 1 p.m. For further information, call (973) 877-3099.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27

NEWARK - The New Jersey Historical Society hosts a guided walking tour. For further information, call (973) 596-8500 ext. 243.

Fax your calendar items to:
(973) 642-5444

Bush says long list of candidate prospects doesn't include Powell

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Republican presidential contender George W. Bush says his long list of vice presidential prospects doesn't include Colin Powell, a potential political figure who says he doesn't want the job.



Ret. Gen. Colin Powell. File photo.

"People who don't want to be considered for vice president are not going to be considered for vice president," Bush said Wednesday, a day before a meeting with the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The same goes for Arizona Sen. John McCain, the Texas governor's vanquished primary rival who says he doesn't want to play second fiddle at the

White House.

"They have told me, they have said publicly, they don't want to be vice president," Bush said. Polls show McCain and Powell are popular with voters and would enhance the Republican ticket.

That may be why the Texas governor seemed to leave the door open for both men, saying with a grin, "If they ever change their mind, I'll let you know."

Bush recently met with Powell, who was in town to promote his nationwide volunteerism campaign. But the governor had no plans to broach the vice presidential topic.

Powell has not ruled out a Cabinet post, if offered to the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the likely nominee's advisers say Powell is a formidable prospect for secretary of state.

Bush offered a rare glimpse into his decision-making process, saying he was actively considering "a couple dozen" vice presidential prospects. He said he talks frequently about the choices with Dick Cheney, the former defense secretary heading up his search.

The prospects cut a wide swath throughout the Republican ranks — "I'm looking at everybody," he said — with each candidate undergoing an initial background review.

Ron Fournier



EAST BRUNSWICK (l to r) James Mauk, Malik Wellington, Chrissie Dori, and Ricky Valentin, gathered at the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network's annual donor recognition ceremony held recently at the Hilton Hotel. photo courtesy of The Shering Network



Man of the Millennium: Houma, Louisiana, resident Demery Howard (left) is the winner of the Essence and Preferred Stock What A Man! Millionaire Contest. The contest asked readers to nominate a special man in their lives who has distinguished himself through community work, commitment to family or career success. Howard, a 22-year-old student and model studying sports medicine at the University of Baton Rouge, is a committed member of Mount Olive Baptist Church, singing in its junior and men's choirs, and is a member of the Blaine C. Clay Masonic Lodge #14. pictured with Howard are Monique Greenwood, Essence Editor-in-Chief, and Edward Lewis, publisher and chief executive officer at Essence Communications, Inc.

City ponders renaming civic center after 'Godfather of Soul'

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — If city officials have their way, "The Godfather of Soul" soon might be singing his legendary hit "I Feel Good" in the James Brown Arena.

The Augusta-Richmond County Coliseum Authority has formed a committee to consider renaming its civic center after Brown, a resident of Beech Island, S.C., who has an office in Augusta.

"It's got sort of a ring to it, doesn't it?" Augusta Mayor Bob Young said of James Brown Arena.

Authority member Austin Rhodes presented the idea to the group.

"James Brown is the only man alive, I know, to have captivated and personally inspired talents like Elvis Presley, Mick Jagger, John Lennon, Paul McCartney, Jimi Hendrix, Tina Turner, Michael Jackson and Prince," Rhodes said.

"According to Billboard Magazine, the authority on popular music in America, he is by far the 1 artist in the history of the R&B/urban music industry," Rhodes said.

After numerous tributes to the late Mr. Washington, whom Rhodes called an Augusta icon,

Rhodes said he started thinking about honoring special people during their lives.

"Dr. Ike's unexpected death prompted many tributes," Rhodes said. "In the midst of the farewell, many of us noted what a tragedy it was that our friend never lived to hear the testimony of his neighbors on his worth to the collective family to which we all belong."

Rhodes said he had spoken with Brown's representatives and they indicated the singer would be in favor of contributing some of his memorabilia to the civic center.

If Augusta does decide to honor Brown, it will join Macon, Ga., as cities in the state with ties to famous R&B singers. Little Richard is Macon's community spokesman.

"Well, we've got an even more famous celebrity right here," said Jim West, president of the Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce. "I'd like to see us use his name and notoriety to market this community."

James Brown Arena would join Doug Barnard Parkway, Jesse Norman Amphitheater and William B. Bell Auditorium as sites named after significant locals.

Puffy loses trial bid

NEW YORK (AP) — Rapper Sean "Puffy" Combs has lost a bid to separate his trial on bribery and gun charges from the trials of two co-defendants who were arrested with him after a nightclub shooting. Combs' lawyer, Benjamin Brafman, said he asked for a separate trial because the judge plans to allow a jury to hear evidence that would be barred if Combs were tried alone. The evidence might be unfairly prejudicial, Brafman said.

State Supreme Justice Charles Solomon, who will hear the trial of all three men, earlier this month denied Brafman's motion, saying he had "failed to establish good cause for granting a severance in this case."

The charges against Combs, 30, stem from a shooting at a Times Square nightclub Dec. 27 when a man allegedly threw money in the rapper's face. Jammal "Shyne" Barrow, 19, a Combs protege, is accused of shooting three people during the dispute. Another co-defendant is Combs' bodyguard, Anthony Jones, 34.

Jones, Combs and Combs' girlfriend, Jennifer Lopez, fled the scene in an automobile. Combs allegedly offered the driver \$50,000 and a diamond



Sean "Puffy" Combs with Jennifer Lopez. Associated Press

ring he had given to Lopez if the driver claimed ownership of a 9 mm gun that was in the car.

Combs has pleaded innocent.

Meanwhile, jury selection in a civil lawsuit against Combs begins Monday. The lawsuit blames him for a deadly stampede during a celebrity basketball game on Dec. 28, 1991, an event he organized at City College of New York. Nine people died and 29 others were injured in the crush.

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Black Quotes

to live by...
"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today."



Malcolm X
1925 - 1965

NATIONAL BRIEFS

URBAN LEAGUE, MUTUAL FUND GROUP START INVESTOR EDUCATION CAMPAIGN
WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Urban League and a mutual fund industry group have joined to create an education campaign to increase awareness of sound investing principles among members of minority groups. The campaign, called "Investing for Success," was announced by the Urban League, a national civil rights organization, and the Investment Company Institute of the Education Foundation. It will include a series of brochures, articles, videos and seminars. Minorities have traditionally been more reluctant about investing in stocks and mutual funds than whites earning similar incomes, according to a securities industry survey. Other surveys have shown that blacks, Asian-Americans and Hispanics have a combined annual spending power of roughly \$1 trillion.

REPARATION LAWSUIT TO BE ANNOUNCED AT JUNE CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON (NNA) — As the 2000 presidential elections become more pressing and scores of organizations jockey to position their agendas onto the national platform, two organizations pushing for reparations for African-Americans are taking action. The National Coalition Of Blacks for Reparations in America and the Harvard Institute, a Washington, DC-based public policy research organization, are preparing a series of events, starting with a June 14 conference that will discuss the next moves in the fight for the United States to pay African-Americans compensation for more than 300 years of slavery and Jim Crow.

NCBRA's website states the conference will be the site of the announcement of a class-action lawsuit.

Clinton signs new Africa-Caribbean Trade Act that will increase Black global economic status

By Jim Lobe

WASHINGTON DC (IPS) — Celebrating his first trade victory in six years, President Bill Clinton recently signed into law the Trade and Development Act of 2000, which is designed to promote US commerce with sub-Saharan Africa and two dozen countries of the Caribbean Basin.

In an enthusiastic ceremony on the south lawn of the White House, Clinton told the two regions' diplomatic corps, as well as key lawmakers, that the legislation "will be good for the United States, good for Africa, good for Central America and the Caribbean."

"Let me say that the legislation I sign today is about more than development and trade; it's about transforming our relationship with two regions full of good people trying to build good futures, who are very important to our own future," he said.



President Clinton signs the African-CBI trade bill as U.S. Rep. Rangel, other members of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress and the Senate look on. Photo courtesy of The White House

He also called for quick congressional approval of debt relief for the poorest nations and for proposed tax incentives to speed the development and delivery of vaccines for HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis.

The new law - an amalgam of the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the

Enhanced Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) - passed both houses of Congress by large majorities earlier this month after a protracted negotiation to reconcile different versions which they had approved last year.

Both the AGOA and Enhanced CBI bills had been pending in Congress for a long

time. The Africa bill, which Clinton submitted in 1997 and which the House had approved the following year, was blocked in the Senate by lawmakers from textile-producing states.

Enhanced CBI, which was originally designed to give Caribbean nations many of the same trade advantages acquired by Mexico under the 1993 North American Free Trade Agreement, was held up by a coalition of textile interests, labor unions, and some environmental groups. It was rejected by the House in 1997 but revived when senators attached it to the Africa bill late last year.

At present, Africa accounts for only one percent of all U.S. exports, imports and foreign investment, which are concentrated in only a handful of countries. Yet two-way trade with CBI countries was at more than \$40 billion—twice as great as trade with Africa.

Senate still holding block to minority judge appointments

By Hanadi El-Bashir

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — With time running out for the Clinton administration, the Republican-majority U.S. Senate has steadily refused to confirm any of President Clinton's minority choices for federal judgeships, angering civil rights leaders and members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

The Congressional summer recess begins the end of July, five months before the end of Clinton's presidency, when the selection process begins again with a new president.

Of the 12 federal bench nominees Clinton resubmitted to the Senate Judiciary Committee last January, only one, Missouri Supreme Court Judge

Ronnie White, who is Black, was voted on, and his nomination was rejected on a straight party line vote.

Last March, the Senate finally confirmed the nomination of San Francisco attorney

Marsha Berzon and Central District of California Judge Richard Paez, who had been waiting two and three years respectively for their nominations to be brought to the floor for a vote.

Berzon is white and Paez is Hispanic.

The remaining appointments have been stalled. The Senate reserves the power to approve presidential appointments.

National Black leadership, attempting to integrate a judicial system that impacts disproportionately on African-Americans, has recently and consistently spoken out on the lack of color on the federal bench.

The Congressional Black Caucus last January, in its first ever response to a State of the Union Address, said it would make the lack of minority judge appointments a top priority in the coming presidential election.

The Senate's roadblock prevents Clinton, in the waning days of his administration, from continuing his priority of nomi-

nating and appointing people of color to influential regional and national posts—a record that has drawn much praise from African-American leaders and politicians.

At stake might be the "undermining and reversal" of the civil rights gains of the 1960s and 1970s, said Darwin Bolden, staff attorney for the Black Leadership Forum.

Federal judges, appointed for life, have significant political power.

During the Jim Crow era, federal judges throughout the South enforced integration in public schools and facilities in spite of the actions of resistant southern states. In 1996, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia ruled unconstitutional the line-item veto law, which had been passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton.

Clinton, in a statement, has voiced his concern over the Senate's lack of action. "The Sen-

ate's failure to act on my nominations," he said, "or even give many of my nominees a hearing, represents the worst of partisan politics."

"Under the pretense of preventing so-called 'judicial activism,'" he added, "they've taken aim at the very independence our founders sought to protect. We can't let partisan politics shut down our courts and gut our judicial system."

CBC figures show that it took longer than nine months for the Senate to confirm 11 Clinton nominees. Eight of those were minorities or women, whose confirmations took anywhere from 11 months to a record-setting 44 months.

"It's just not fair for the Senate to hold a nomination in limbo for so long," asserted U.S. Rep. James Clyburn (D-S.C.).

"I call upon President Clinton and the administration to continue to nominate more qualified minorities and women to the federal bench."

Mfume encourages graduates to fight intolerance

By Sheila Hotchkiss

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP) — The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People leader Kweisi Mfume urged recent graduates at the University of Maryland to fight intolerance and praised students for rallying against hatred and racism in response to hate mail letters and racist incidents



NAACP President Kweisi Mfume. File photo

that rocked the campus last fall. Mfume urged the nearly 5,000 graduates to join the fight against "a national scourge of insensitivity and intolerance."

"I have not given up on the American ideal or the American possibility," said Mfume, who was awarded an honorary doctorate in public service by the university. "And I have come to the University of Maryland to remind you not to give up also."

Mfume, a former Congressman who has led the NAACP since 1996, said progress has been made, but intolerance is still visible nationwide, "whether it is the flying of Confederate flags on state capitols or the saluting of swastikas by skinheads."

The Baltimore-based NAACP spearheaded a tourism boycott against South Carolina, which has flown the Confederate flag over its Statehouse for decades.

South Carolina Gov. Jim Hodges signed legislation this week to remove the flag from the Statehouse July 1 and raise it above a nearby Confederate Soldier Monument.

NEWARK CENSUS 2000

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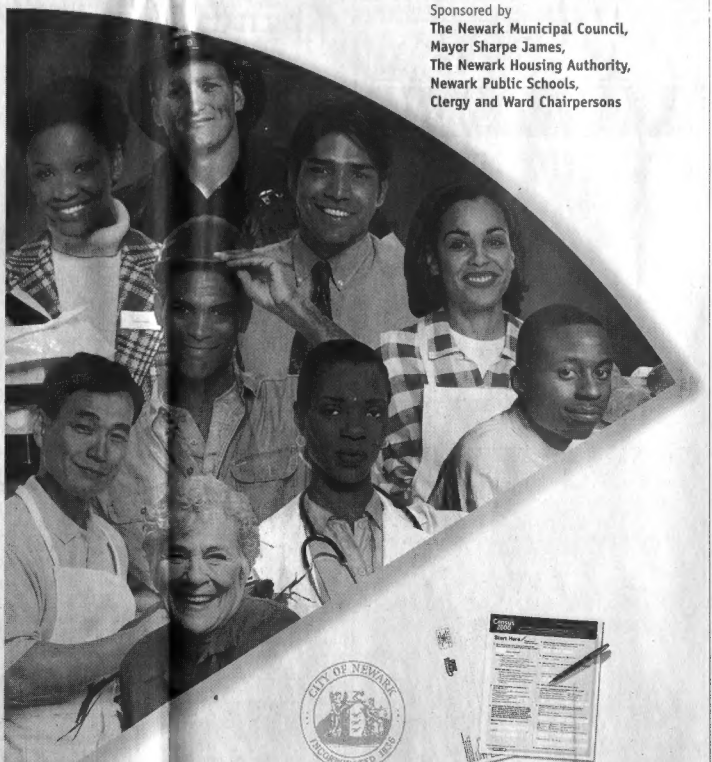
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Equal rights: Wrong!

It was reported that the police officer, Vincent Corso who shot young 15-year-old Michael Angelo of Jersey City in the back of the head was recently cleared of charges. According to a source, the grand jury deemed it to be a "righteous shoot." Another black boy dead before he had the opportunity to really begin to live. This has turned into a perplexing phenomenon—the brutal attacks by police officers on people of color. The very heinous crime that took place recently at the Wendy's in the New York, where five people were killed execution style by two young black men—this act ended their swiftly in jail. But when you look at the case of Amadeo Diallo, a young black man murdered by his own business, very much like the people in Wendy's, going about their daily routine, Diallo was executed by a hailstorm of 41 bullets. The difference here is that the police officers who committed the crime are at home right now getting on with their day-to-day lives. Amadeo's life was written off as a justifiable homicide, a "righteous shoot." These police officers should have been punished to the fullest. However, in the United States there are different rules and regulations for different segments of the population. Equal rights, everybody the same, you get a chance, I get a chance, we take turns, everybody wins. Wrong!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

For decades local officials have complained about actions of the State in enacting laws and regulations that impose mandates on city and local municipalities and school districts without providing funding to address those costs. The result has been that the financial burden has been imposed on local property taxpayers.

After years of effort by the New Jersey State League of Municipalities and other concerned organizations, local officials and taxpayers, the New Jersey State Constitution was amended by the voters in 1995 to require that any law enacted after January 17, 1996, and any rule or regulation issued pursuant to a law originally adopted after July 1, 1996, would be invalid if it was determined to be an unfunded mandate.

In order to enforce the requirement, the constitutional amendment required the creation of a Council on Local Mandates to rule on whether a law, rule or regulation constituted an unfunded mandate. The membership on the Council on Local Mandates was designed to be bipartisan and is composed of nine public members. Four are appointed by the Governor, one member is appointed by the President of the Senate, one member is appointed by the minority leader of the General Assembly, and one member is appointed by the Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Those of us involved in local government saw the amendment

as a critical element in the effort to control the growth of local property taxes, but we have wondered whether the process would actually work and whether the Council on Local Mandates would actually determine that some mandated costs would be declared unconstitutional as unfunded mandates.

We now have the answer. The system works.

The Council on Local Mandates has just issued a decision that a change in the rules applied to the mandated funding of Charter Schools by local school districts is an unfunded mandate and under the provisions of the New Jersey Constitution the mandate fails and expires.

Some have argued that the decision is against Charter Schools. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The issue of whether Charter Schools are beneficial or not is a matter of policy to be determined by the Legislature and by the Department of Education. That decision has been made and Charter Schools are being developed across the State.

Where there are changes in the rules which impose additional costs on local taxpayers, however, the Constitution requires that those mandated expenses be covered by the State, not by the local property tax.

The decision of the Council on Local Mandates is a victory for local property taxpayers and mandates are not the constitutional process works.

William G. Dressler, Jr.
Executive Director
New Jersey State League

By Dr. Manning Marable

The last major public demonstration in the United States in the twentieth century, the massive demonstrations against the World Trade Organization in Seattle, and the new century's first major protest, in Washington, D.C. against the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank this April, illustrate both the possibilities and problems inherent in building a progressive alternative to globalization.

On the positive side, these mass demonstrations brought together a spectrum of groups and interests, including many of whom, until very recently, had little to do with each other. Men have been written about the "new alliance" between representatives of the labor movement and environmentalists, who appeared together in Seattle. Both demonstrations have been criticized in many quarters as being overwhelmingly white, and despite the fact that the streets were filled with people of color, especially here in the U.S.

Although this criticism is largely justified, as scholar/activist Elizabeth Menzies has observed, in "Independent Politics News," Black, Latino, Asian and African American progressives prominently participated. At Seattle, for example, there were African-American trade unionists from SKIU, and the Teamsters; Latino farm workers from the United Farm Workers; and members of the Environmental Network, an international coalition of Native Americans; Bay Area formations of the Black Panther Party; and the Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement, and

student activist groups such as MECBA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan).

The key organizers of both mobilizations attempted to make the connections between the actions of the IMF, World Bank and WTO with the expanding global exploitation of Third World nations' economies and environments. The April 9 demonstration on the Washington Mall was specifically focused on the demand to cancel the debts of Third World countries. Yet this effort, however laudable, did not successfully resolve the masses of working class, poor and unemployed African Americans and Latinos who live in the District of Columbia. There were perhaps more African American among the police and security forces at the Washington, D.C. demonstration than among the protesters.

Not a few white progressives have explained the relatively small numbers of Black, Latino and Asian working class and poor people at the demonstrations as they are "uninformed" or "unaware" of how the globalized economy impacts their neighborhoods. The immediate and obvious response from the people of color is that this "argument" is condescending and borderline racist. Seattle, for example, in the local media blitz leading up to the WTO demonstrations there were "only white faces in the news," according to Roberto Masferrer, director of Casa del Centro de la Raza. The publicity was a real deterrent to people of color.

Another difficulty that progressives must urgently address is how a shared vision of radical democratic social change can be

constructed between the various constituencies and divergent interests who came to Seattle for Washington, D.C. Ironically, this problem was most clearly framed by author David Frum, a fellow at the conservative Manhattan Institute, in a recent New York Times editorial. Frum argued that throughout most of the twentieth century, "the left had something positive to offer a coherent and compelling vision of an alternative society." Then, with the collapse of Communism and the crisis of self-doubt among socialists, the ideal of socialism as a realistic alternative to corporate capitalism was discredited. "And the death of socialism," Frum gloats enthusiastically, "has simply cut the intellectual guts out of the kind of radicalism espoused by the people who tried to shut the World Bank down." Thus the protestors are motivated only by their "hatred" of "big corporations," "technology," "electoral politics" and even "Gap khakis."

The highly publicized and celebrated "denial of socialism" is, to paraphrase Mark Twain, highly exaggerated. But progressives should take Frum's point seriously. A social vision has to have the capacity to win the hearts and minds of millions of people, for them finally to take collective actions to achieve their objective interests.

Building a successful political alternative to globalized capitalism takes time and energy. It will mean the construction of a new political language and methods of organization to reach the agencies fragmented by gender, class, race, nationality and language. It will demand that well-meaning white liberals

and environmentalists will have to learn from and acknowledge central roles of leadership to black people and other people of color. It requires building close cooperation with black churches and other faith-based institutions, women's organizations and gay/lesbian groups, as well as with trade unionists and youth of color.

Radicals sometimes think that as conditions worsen, oppressed people will become desperate, and will begin to demand basic change. This viewpoint is completely wrong. History shows that the capacity for resistance is always enhanced by the winning of small victories. To achieve real change, we must win over the masses whom we share common interests, but who do not now believe what we believe. This should not be considered a matter of policy, conversion or ideological purity, but people into submission, but by persuading them through our work and activities that meaningful democratic change is possible. Small victories do matter, when combined with a broad but radical social vision.

On the worst days, never struggle solely to realize abstract ideas. They struggle to improve their children's and their own lives, within the real world, here and now. What most exploited people want are the tools to make meaningful changes in their material environment and circumstances. The struggle against globalization must be informed by an overarching social vision for the realization of human rights, anchoring our vision in the actual conditions of Third World, working class and poor communities.

No' to normal trade relations with China

By Norman Hill

Last autumn, tens of thousands of workers, environmentalists, and others participated in a massive demonstration at the meeting of the World Trade Organization in Seattle. They were protesting the current rules of the international economy, which disadvantage the poor nations and other matters of interest to business but not the concerns of ordinary working men and women.

For example, under the framework of free trade that has been promoted by the WTO since the end of the cold war, corporations are free to seek the workers to find the most profitable places for investment. Naturally, they favor countries in the developing world where labor is cheap, where workers do not have the right to organize free trade unions, and where environmental regulations are nonexistent or minimal. Many of these countries are run by nondemocratic regimes. So it is not surprising that from 1989 to 1996, the share of direct U.S. investment garnered by nondemocratic developing countries increased by 5.8 percentage points compared to a gain of just 1.5 percentage points for democratic developing countries.

When U.S. corporations look to purchase goods abroad, they seek the lowest price. This is one reason why the share of developing country exports (aside from

oil) to the United States that came from free countries has declined by 18 percentage points (from 53 percent to 35 percent), while the share coming from nondemocratic developing countries has grown by 11 percentage points.

Workers in the developing world are the obvious victims of a free trade system that favors nondemocratic countries, where laborers are most exploited. But workers in America and other advanced nations are also victims. That is particularly true of low-skilled workers, who are most likely to be producing the kinds of goods that workers in developing countries are making.

Under free trade arrangements, the cheaper goods from developing countries flood the advanced countries like the United States, threatening the jobs of workers and even the very jobs of laborers in those countries.

China is a nation especially vulnerable to this development. As Martin Luther King once said:

"Negroes are almost entirely a working people. There are few Negro millionaires and few Negro employers." And because of historical discrimination against black employment and wages, they are disproportionately found in the relatively low-skilled production jobs that are vulnerable to competition from products made by exploited labor in the nondemocratic developing countries.

That is why the A. Philip Randolph Institute joins wholeheartedly with the AFL-CIO in demanding changes in the rules of the global economy to make them reflect the rights of people and the planet, and not just the quest for profits. International agreements must guarantee the right to work in decent conditions, the right of workers to form free trade unions for the purpose of collective bargaining.

They must also ban the use of forced labor and child labor. And they must establish strong environmental standards. With rules like these in place, global economic growth can work for everyone, for workers and the general public as well as investors, for the people of the planet and not just the corporations.

Which set of international rules will prevail? Those that give corporations free rein, or those that defend human values? Right now, a massive, cross-broad battle over which approach to follow is being fought in the U.S. Congress. Currently, an amendment to China's human rights record is being considered before U.S. trade policy toward that nation is decided. Now, the administration wants to scrap the annual human rights report on China permanent normal trade relations status.

The AFL-CIO and the APRIL oppose this change as both a disasteful development in itself and as a step backward in the effort

to create a fairer set of rules for the global economy. China has won the world's human rights records in the world. The Chinese Communist Party has a monopoly of political power; opposition parties are outlawed. Freedom of the press, speech, and assembly are unknown. Workers' rights do not exist. They are banned from forming trade unions, and labor organizing is the de facto prohibition are sentenced to long jail terms. Many of China's exports are made in forced labor camps or by workers earning as little as 13 cents an hour. These goods are already reaching our shore, costing hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs and lowering the wages of American workers.

Meanwhile, because the Chinese people have no say in their government does, the regime does little or nothing to implement sound environmental policies, which jeopardize not just China but the entire world.

Philip Randolph, a great black labor and civil rights leader and the co-founder of the Randolph Institute, once said that "the fight for democracy does not end at the water's edge." That is even more apt today than when he said it, because as the world's economy becomes increasingly globalized, the fight for democracy in some countries has an unfavorable impact on others, far as well as near. That is especially true in the case of China, with its more than one billion people.

Farrakhan 'confession' no new news at all

By Lee Hubbard

The story was billed as a first ever confession, but it was more like journalistic sensationalism. I am referring to the CBS TV "60 Minutes" segment by Mike Wallace dealing with the killing of Malcolm X, a fiery Black militant in the 1960s.

The show purported to have Minister Louis Farrakhan, admit for the first time that his words played a role in the assassination of Malcolm X.

The news magazine's 15-minute segment is based on a four-hour meeting with a mediator between Minister Farrakhan and the oldest daughter of Malcolm X, Attallah Shabazz, at Farrakhan's Arizona winter retreat.

Shabazz was six-years-old when she witnessed her father get shot down by three gunmen at the Audubon Ballroom in New York City, on February 21, 1965.

Although later accounts say five men were involved, three with ties to the Nation of Islam were convicted

of the slaying. Attallah called for the meeting, at Minister Farrakhan's house, to find out his role in the death of her father.

It was at his house that Minister Farrakhan said he may have been complicit in words that I spoke leading up to February 21. I acknowledge that and regret that. I believe that I have said caused the loss of a human being."

Leading up to the show, the CBS website said it had covered it all over its Website. The Associated Press also ran a story based on the alleged "confession." The topic created a firestorm of activity on talk shows and Black Web sites.

But while it has led to debate surrounding the death of Malcolm X, and the possible involvement of Minister Farrakhan, one has asked the big question.

Is the story new?

The answer is: No. On other television occasions, Minister Farrakhan has said that his public words may have

helped to create an atmosphere that may have influenced others to carry out the assassination. This is something that Minister Farrakhan had said in 1994 to Barbara Walters, and on at least two other public occasions.

One thing the broadcast has done is bring up the death of Malcolm X, and the events surrounding his death, which is like a Greek tragedy. Malcolm X was a thief and prison convict who was a racist, who had covered the teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, the NOI's leader, while in jail.

Minister Farrakhan has admitted in the past that his words may have stirred up emotions, why the big deal now? It's a "my ratings thing," says Karl Evans, author of the book, "The Judas Factor: The Plot to Kill Malcolm X" and new book, "The Messenger: A total hype job by CBS, and it is disingenuous," said by Washington Post's website. Outside of the sit-down

between Attallah and Minister Farrakhan, there was nothing new to the "60 Minutes" story. But it is a speculation that Minister Farrakhan is trying to make amends on all fronts because of his prostrate case.

But the mending of the fences has already taken place. During a rally in Harlem in 1994, Minister Farrakhan made up with Betty Shabazz, Attallah's mother, after her sister Qubilah was charged in 1984 with hiring a hitman to kill him.

Who knows why Minister Farrakhan agreed to the interview. But at the old "60 Minutes" mislead viewers on a story in which it focused on the sensational headlines focusing on the external factors that helped to inflame the controversy.

Lee Hubbard can be reached by e-mail at leehubbard@earthlink.net for any questions or comments.

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Business Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

EDISON - Pathfinder Consulting Group presents a job fair at 11 a.m. For further information, call (732) 851-7048.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

JERSEY CITY - New Jersey University Women's Center holds an introductory computer class at 12:00 p.m. For further information, call (201) 200-3189.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

PICATINNY ARSENAL - The NJ Small Business Development Center hosts its 8th Annual Government Procurement Expo, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For further information, call (908)353-6960.

MONDAY, JUNE 12

MIDDLESEX - New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners meets at 6:00 p.m. For further information, call (732) 238-9408.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

TRENTON - Metropolitan Trenton African-American Chamber of Commerce monthly networking luncheon will be held at Moxie's Restaurant at 11:30 a.m. For further information, call (609) 393-5533.

NEW YORK - The New York Power Authority presents its 11th Annual Purchasing Exchange. For more information, call (914) 681-6453.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

JERSEY CITY - New Jersey City University hosts "How To Finance Your College or Graduate Education." For further information, call (201) 200-3189.

TRENTON - The New Jersey Chamber of Commerce presents their upcoming conference entitled, E-Business: Moving @ Net-Sped Connection & Expo. For further information call 609-989-7888.

MONDAY, JUNE 19

JERSEY CITY - New Jersey City University sponsors a women's self-esteem group at 6 p.m. For further information, call (201)200-3189.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20

NEWARK - The SCORE Association presents a seminar on "Starting and Managing Your Own Business," from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, call (973) 645-3882.

NEW YORK - The Roosevelt Hotel hosts a power breakfast seminar, from 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. For more information, call (609) 233-1110.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

PRINCETON - Metropolitan Trenton African-American Chamber of Commerce presents its Third Annual Golf Classic at 8 a.m. For further information call (609)393-5933.

Profile your business' latest events in City News! Send all items to:

Business Calendar
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Area businesswomen honored at New Jersey executive women's dinner

NEW BRUNSWICK — Betty W. Barber, Ph.D., Darlene L. Cox, Jeannine LaRue and Paula A. Price were recently honored for their achievements at the "Salute to the Policy Makers" Awards Dinner of Executive Women of New Jersey. The dinner honored thirty-five women who serve as either directors or officers in corporations and foundations having significant New Jersey-based operations. Proceeds raised at the dinner benefit EWNJ's Scholarship Fund, which provides support to women for graduate-level programs.

According to Marguerite M. Schaffer, Esq., President of EWNJ, this year's event far surpassed other dinners and raised \$255,000 for the Scholarship Fund. The eighth biennial dinner was chaired by Albert R. Gempier, Jr., Chairman, President and CEO of The CITI Group, Inc. The dinner also recognized New Jersey companies that enhance career opportunities for women through proactive programs and/or have a relatively high percentage of women executives and directors. This year, EWNJ honored Hoffmann-LaRoche Inc. and Lucent Technologies Inc. by naming the two companies to their Business Honor Roll.



Jeannine LaRue File photo



Betty W. Barber, Ph.D. File photo



Darlene Cox File photo



Paula A. Price File photo

Alliegence Community Bank opens in South Orange

SOUTH ORANGE — The town of South Orange recently welcomed a new bank in town when Alliegence Community Bank officially opened its doors for business on May 15.

Offering a broad range of services, Alliegence Community Bank will cater to small to medium-sized business customers, organizations and individual customers.

"Alliegence Bank will quickly become an integral part of the South Orange community by helping families and local businesses literally live in their dreams," said Frank A. Mustilli, president and CEO of Alliegence Community Bank. "We do not have the overhead of larger banks. That fact translates into exceptional interest rates for anyone investing in savings, money markets, Certificates of Deposit and Individual Retirement Accounts."

In the spirit of planting roots in the South Orange community,



Alliegence will have a series of grand opening events at their site in June. During the week-end of June 10 the Alliegence Community Bank will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The bank will also host a "lot party" in the bank parking lot with residents, neighbors, customers and friends

all welcome. Carnival festivities will be the order of the day, including children's face painting, a basketball shoot, hot dogs, hamburgers and more. A \$1000 savings bond drawing will take place on Saturday at 2 p.m.

In conjunction with project Kid-Care, a national program created by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children that educates the public on the prevention of child abuse, a special day for kids is planned for June 17. Free photo IDs and fingerprinting are among the fun and important child-safety themed activities on that day's agenda.

Alphatrain acquires Eatontown Computer Training Center

NEW PROVIDENCE — Alphatrain recently announced its acquisition of TekSolv, Inc., a technical and consulting firm that offers both vocational and corporate training and technical consulting services.

"We are proud to be a part of New Jersey's technical wave of change," This acquisition enhances our expansion initiative and is a significant step forward in our dedication to total quality," said Akin, President and CEO of Alphatrain.

Nationally accredited Alphatrain is an industry leader in IT training dedicated to providing hands-on, instructor-led computer training to both individuals and corporations. The organization is a Microsoft Certified Technical Education Center, which means it is a qualified full service organization that provides the most comprehensive training using Microsoft's Official Computer Training Curriculum.

TekSolv, Inc. has three New Jersey locations, Eatontown, Perth Amboy, and Somerville. Alphatrain's growing domain has five New Jersey sites: New Providence, Newark, Union, Eatontown, and East Orange.

The two companies will remain separate and retain their current names.

"We plan to keep both the Alphatrain and the TekSolv Eatontown sites. This will engage dynamic competition, as well as promote innovative marketing strategies," remarked Akin.

Both organizations are fully approved by the New Jersey Department of Education, and the Department of Labor to provide fully funded training to individuals coming through JTPA, PIC, Workforce, DVR and Employment Service programs. Akin says that the acquisition is a fundamental step in being a part of the building block process in providing New Jersey with a solid technologically trained labor pool.

Alphatrain and its sister company, AlphaResources, an IT consulting firm, are privately held companies. AlphaResources is the only New Jersey Solutions Provider appointed to Microsoft's National Education Advisory Council. AlphaResources provides network integration, software development, e-commerce and Internet solutions. The company Web sites are: www.alphatrain.com and www.teksolv.com.

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Religion Calendar

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

NEWARK - The Men of First Mt. Zion Baptist Church present white and Fathers Day Breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more information, call (973) 242-4173.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

NEW YORK - The Riverside Church "Rap Writers & Performance Workshop" will be held at 7 p.m. For additional information, call (212) 870-6739.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27

NEWARK - The Youth Congress of God in Christ presents its 2nd Annual Youth Exposition 2000 at 8 p.m. For more information, call 973-575-6072.

Prayer Corner

Let's Pray

Dear Lord, I thank You for this day. I thank You for being able to see and hear this morning. I'm blessed because You are a forgiving God and an understanding God. You have done so much for me and You keep on blessing me. Forgive me this day for I have sinned. I ask now for Your forgiveness. Keep me safe from all danger and harm. Let me start this day with a new attitude and plenty of gratitude. Let me make the best of each and every day and give my best in all that is put before me.

Clear my mind that I can hear from You. Broaden my mind that I can accept all things. Let me not be weak and whimper over things I have no control over. Let me continue to see sin through God's eyes and acknowledge it as evil. And when I sin, let me repent, and confess with my mouth my wrongdoing, and receive the forgiveness of God.

And when this world closes in on me, let me remember Jesus' example - to slip away and find a quiet place to pray. It's the best response when I'm pushed beyond my limits. I know that when I can't pray, You listen to my heart.

Continue to use me to do Thy Will. Continue to bless me that I may be a blessing to others. Keep me strong that I may help the weak and unsaved. Keep me uplifted that I may have words of encouragement for others.

I pray for those that are lost and can't find their way. I pray for those that are misjudged and misunderstood. I pray for those who refuse to share a word from You. I pray for those who don't know You intimately. I pray for those who will only read this and not speak this aloud in their own lives. I pray for those who don't believe.

I thank You that I believe. I believe that God changes people and God changes things. I pray for all my sisters and brothers. For each and every family member in their households. I pray for peace, love and joy in their homes, that they are out of debt and all their needs are met. I pray that every eye that reads this knows there is no problem, circumstance, or situation grater than God. Every battle is in His hands for Him to fight. I pray that these words be received into the hearts of every eye that sees them and every mouth that confesses them willingly.

This is my prayer. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Bible calls alcohol both a joy and a 'mocker'

By Richard N. Ostling

(AP) — A certain segment of Americans, mostly Protestants who profess strict loyalty to the Bible, associate true Christian living with total abstinence from alcoholic beverages.

It was such Protestant folk, especially women, who got the Constitution amended to forbid alcohol sales nationwide from 1919 to 1933. Some Protestant colleges still require students and faculty to be teetotalers, as do other religious organizations.

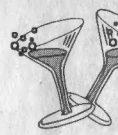
But Christians with a different opinion can cite support in the Scriptures.

The Old Testament praised God because he brings forth "wine to gladden the heart of man" (Psalm 104:15). Searching to express high praise, the Song of Solomon begins with the words, "telling her man, 'Your love is better than wine.'"

The New Testament added mention of medicinal benefits: "No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments" (1 Timothy 5:23).

However, the Old Testament coupled its basically positive attitude with sharp warnings against drinking to excess: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1). The Apostle Paul also denounced overindulgence: "Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery" (Ephesians 5:18).

The New Testament church made moderate a hallmark to holding church office. Deacons



must not be "addicted to much wine," according to 1 Timothy 3:8.

As for Jesus Christ, his attitude is summarized in Matthew 11:18-19.

There he said John the Baptist "came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He's a demon.' While the Son of Man [Jesus] came drinking and eating, and they say, 'Behold, a glutton and a drunkard.'"

That means, wrote J. Lawrence Burkholder in Christianity Today — a mainstream magazine for the sort of conservative Evangelicals who once demanded strict abstinence — that Jesus thought arguments about drinking and diet "were petty and distracting. They drew attention from the real issues facing the nation."

It's also evident from this passage that Jesus taught that a Jew's abstinence was a perfectly acceptable lifestyle for believers, but so was the temperate use of alcoholic beverages that he himself practiced.

After all, in John's Gospel the very first miracle performed by Jesus was turning water into wine for the wedding feast at

Cana, which is often mentioned in today's marriage ceremonies (John 2:1-11).

Paul picked up this approach when he discussed conflicts in the early church: "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Burkholder, retired president of Indiana's Goshen College, did not leave the matter with biblical times. He said application of scriptural principles must consider "scientific, historical and cultural conditions," for instance, the reasons religious zeal for total abstinence arose.

In biblical times, he said, the main beverage under consideration was wine, which had limited alcohol content and was sometimes diluted as a substitute for plain drinking water.

The situation changed radically with the invention of distilled alcohol in 12th-century Europe. Some have remarked that alcoholism was the first disease to be created by a new scientific development, centuries before asbestos, Agent Orange or radiation sickness.

The far more potent liquors, Burkholder wrote, "are not drunk as a beverage for the sake of taste and refreshment but as a highly concentrated drug taken for the effect."

The American way of drink is also a long way from the wedding at Cana, he remarked. Many who imbibe at bars, parties, or even at home "are separated from the positive elements of life," so that alcohol contributes to "a 'ragged loneliness,'" quite the opposite of biblical situations.

Faith through suffering

By Edmund Brown
Gospel Warriors Ministries

God has many ways of bringing individuals into close communion with Him. He puts it on the heart of His servants to follow Him lead in reaching out to people, and in breaking new ground for His Word to be harvested. This is how our ministry got underway.

My main desire is to put people in touch with God so that they will come to know and trust Him in a new and living way. I

Suffering isn't popular, and if I had a choice I would rather avoid it. However, when it finds its way into my life as it always does, then I find through it a new way to lean on God.

believe this is the cure for a dull Christian experience.

Whenever I speak or write an article, foremost in my heart is the hope that those who hear will become more intimate with the Father, and respond in obedience to His Will. Month after month, through our newsletters and Partner's messages, God offers fresh insights into His abundant grace, mercy and peace.

And because God put this great need on our heart, we depend on Him to reveal His Word to us. This is proving to make our relationship with Him more vital and wholesome. We are discovering that the better we know God through the Word, the easier it is to trust Him, especially when circumstances aren't quite ideal. Another way God brings us closer to Him is through suffering.

Suffering isn't popular, and if

I had a choice I would rather avoid it. However, when it finds its way into my life as it always does, then I find through it a new way to lean on God.

Sometimes things are going fairly smoothly. Then suddenly, sometimes unannounced, unexpected tragedy happens, leaving ground for His Word to be harvested. This is how our ministry got underway.

My main desire is to put people in touch with God so that they will come to know and trust Him in a new and living way. I

Suffering isn't popular, and if I had a choice I would rather avoid it. However, when it finds its way into my life as it always does, then I find through it a new way to lean on God.

Occasionally a few "church folks" come along. They have the gift of criticism, and they tell you where you went wrong and how you are the cause of the whole ordeal because you disobeyed God somewhere. They don't understand anything, they talk way too much, and they make you sick.

All they know are religious lies that can never bring relief or comfort to a hurting heart. Job spoke of his friends as "forgers of lies" and "physicians of no value" when their counsel only intensified his pain.

When times are tough, we desire to hear from God, to feel His presence, to know His comfort. Our worship of Him needs to be so deep and intimate that the voices of all others are silenced. Then we can say, "I'm alone with you Lord, just you and me, and everything is all right."

You may have already felt the blunt blow of suffering. I care a lot about whatever you're going through, and God does too. The sting of suffering cannot be denied, and I cannot fully explain the mystery of it. But I do know that we are not alone in our struggles. We have a High Priest who is touched by the feeling of our infirmities (Hebrews 4:15). Just knowing that He is there and He cares is enough to fill our heart with confidence and relief.

We would love to hear from you. Send comments to rownwoodmunde@hotmail.com. Visit us at www.gospelwarriors.org. Gospel Warriors Ministries is a non-profit organization. Send tax-deductible contributions to P.O. Box 310195, Birmingham, AL 35231-0195.

Nine steps to success in life

By Herbert Harris

The Seventh Universal

THE NINE-STEP METHOD TO MAKE A SUCCESS PLAN

1. Purchase a daily planner.

Live by the book. Your planner should be the official daily record of your journey on the path - your success journey.

2. Write your vision, goals and target dates in your planner.

3. List the actions necessary to accomplish your goals, and when they must be performed.

4. Write out a brief, but complete, narrative statement of how you intend to achieve your goals. This is your success plan.

5. Revise, study, digest and memorize your success plan statement.

6. Start right away doing the most important things first, then proceeding to lesser important ones.

7. Develop a daily timetable showing all actions to be performed and the date they must be done.

8. Plan all actions that must be performed each day. If you fail to perform an action on the day scheduled, move it over to the next day. Margins it in with the actions to be performed that day, in accord with its priority with respect to the actions already scheduled for that day.

9. Monitor your efforts closely and evaluate your results.

Rule for Success is the Rule of Action

This rule governs the manner or method of performing the activities of life. It is the methodology by which the principles of success are actually implemented on a day-to-day, moment-to-moment basis. The rule of action encompasses your behavior, conduct, habits and method of operation. It is the operating process by which your thoughts and feelings become the things and experiences of your life.

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." (James 1:22) All that is written in my book, as well as in all other instruments of enlightenment, are absolutely worthless unless you put these ideas and principles into action.

ACTION PLANNING FOR YOUR SUCCESS

The goals you set for yourself should represent your vision and your deep desires in life.

When you realize your vision depends on your ability to systematically and consistently attain your underlying goals. The most important element in attaining your goals is the formation and execution of definite, practical plans which work. A success plan is an organized course of action that allows you to produce desired results. The desired result to be produced is the attainment of your goals and

the realization of your vision. Productive results reflects your ability to organize your time, plan your work, and work your plan. To construct a great skyscraper requires an accurate blueprint, diligently followed by the builders.

Give Thanks
Take time to give thanks for all God's blessings. Most importantly, find the blessings in your life and know that He is with you.

Obituary

Dear Friends:

The Family of Diane Cooper would like to take this opportunity to extend their sincere gratitude for the support given to us during our time of sorrow from us during our time of sorrow. The letters, cards, telephone calls and visits we received provided much needed solace to the family. The outpouring of love for Diane will always be a source of comfort and strength for us during our bereavement period.

Yours in Christ, the family of Lucinda & Rufus Cooper, mother and father, brother Carl Cooper, Diane's daughters, Unika W. Cooper and Sallie E. Cooper, grandson Kaleem C. Rodgers, her beloved sister Zella Mae Jones, her children Zabeila, Rashad and Terrance Cooper.

If I knew it would be the last time that I'd see you fall asleep, I would take you in more tightly and pray the Lord your soul to keep. If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out

the door, I would give you a hug and a kiss and call you back for more. If I knew it would be the last time I could spare an extra minute for two, to stop and stay, "If I love You," instead of assuming you would know I do. If I knew it would be the last time I would share your day, well I'm sure we'll have some many more, so I can let just one slip away. For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight and we always get a second chance to make everything right. SO if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today? For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day that you didn't take the extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss and you were to busy to grant somebody what turned out to be their very last wish. So hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear, tell them how much you love them and you "always hold them dear. Take time to say, "I'm sorry," "Please forgive me," "Thank you," or "It's okay." And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have No regrets about today.

Assemblyman Neil Cohen to be honored by Resolve

ELIZABETH—Deputy Minority Leader Neil M. Cohen (D-Union) will be honored by Resolve of New Jersey, an active organization in promoting assistance and treatment for infertile couples in New Jersey.

Assemblyman Cohen will receive a special Stars of Resolve Award on Thursday May 18, 2000 during the 3rd annual Resolve Recognition Gala at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City.

Cohen will receive the Stars of Resolve Award, which was created to honor those citizens "who have gone above and beyond Resolve of New Jersey to fulfill their mission of providing support and education of those suffering from infertility," said Nancy Marsillo, Gala Committee Chairperson.

Ms. Marsillo noted that Assemblyman Cohen was receiving the Stars of Resolve Award for his "tireless efforts" to enact passage of the Family

Building Act legislation.

Cohen's measure would have required health insurance companies to cover the cost of infertility treatment passed both houses of the New Jersey Legislature last year before Governor Whitman pocket vetoed the bill.

Cohen has re-introduced the legislation and is being considered by Whitman's Health Care Task Force for a recommendation at this time.

Cohen has been active in health related legislation including sponsorship and passage of the "Bone Marrow Cancer Treatment" law, which requires this medical procedure to be available to cancer patients and to be paid for by insurance companies.

He was also a prime sponsor of the "Health Care Quality Act," which was the first law in the nation to provide rights and protections for patients against the abuses of HMO and managed health care providers.

NJ request proposals for redevelopment of Brownfields

TRENTON—The New Jersey Redevelopment Authority (NJRA) is soliciting proposals from municipalities eligible for the \$15 million Brownfields Redevelopment Initiative to acquire, clean up and redevelop contaminated properties. The NJRA has sent a Request for Proposal to 68 urban municipalities eligible to participate in the program.

Governor Christine Todd Whitman strengthened her commitment to smart growth when she announced the Brownfields Redevelopment Initiative in her State of the State Address in January, 2000.

"But some brownfields are still untouched. They haven't been able to attract private developers, and a big reason is the expense of the cleanup," Gov. Whitman said. "From Vineland to Paterson, Atlantic City to Elizabeth, we need to help cities and towns get these sites back onto the market." This program, an extension of the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority's (NJRA) successful Urban Site

Acquisition Program, will complement other resources provided by the State. The maximum award per project under this program has been established at \$1 million. The request for the proposal will allow municipalities to submit potential projects for consideration.

Twenty-two high school and 46 college students, representing almost every county in New Jersey, were awarded scholarships this year through the NJSCPA's High School Scholarship Program, College Scholarship Program, and

State CPA Society awards \$180,000 in scholarships to NJ students

ROSELAND — The New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJSCPA) this year awarded a total of \$180,000 in scholarships to 68 New Jersey high school and college students at its 40th Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony on April 26 at the Woodbridge Hilton. This is the largest amount to be awarded in a single year by the NJSCPA, which operates the largest professional scholarship fund in the state.

"Our goal is to increase the number of students we can support and to encourage more students to pursue a CPA career path," said Donald Richards, CPA, President, NJSCPA Scholarship Fund.

For 40 years, the NJSCPA Scholarship Fund has provided financial assistance to students pursuing careers in accounting. Past scholarship award recipients include Thomas Cesario, CPA, assistant vice president, Summit Bank, and Pamela Varga, CPA, assistant comptroller of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority.

Twenty-two high school and 46 college students, representing almost every county in New Jersey, were awarded scholarships this year through the NJSCPA's High School Scholarship Program, College Scholarship Program, and

Minority Scholarship Programs. The High School Scholarship Program awards scholarships to high school seniors who plan to major in accounting in college and score well on a one-hour accounting aptitude exam. The scholarships are applied to the



recipient's choice of college and range from a one-time amount to five-year awards.

The College Scholarship Program awards scholarships to juniors who are majoring in accounting at New Jersey colleges. Candidates must be nominated by their Accounting department chairperson and winners are selected based on interviews conducted by the NJSCPA Scholarship Interview Committee. The Manuscript Contest, co-sponsored by New Jersey Business magazine, is open to all New Jersey college

sophomores, juniors and seniors. Students are asked to submit an essay on a specific business topic that is then reviewed by a panel of judges. The winner receives a \$3,000 scholarship and the essay is published in New Jersey

Business magazine and New Jersey CPA, the NJSCPA's quarterly publication. The three runners-up receive \$1,000 each.

The NJSCPA supports several minority scholarship programs, including the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants, Inc. and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants minority scholarship programs. These programs are for minority students studying accounting at New Jersey colleges and universities.

College dorm measure approved by assembly committee

TRENTON — An Assembly panel approved a committee substitute for Assemblyman Gerald Green's bill to create a state program to phase-in the installation of sprinkler systems in student housing facilities over the next five years.

"The state is now one step closer to having a plan of action for preventing recurrences of the tragic fires that killed and injured New Jersey students earlier this year," said Green (D-Middlesex). "This is a critically important investment that will save lives, prevent injuries, and protect property."

The substitute legislation (S-891) incorporates many of the provisions found in the dormitory sprinkler bill (A-2331) that Green sponsored with Assemblyman David C. Russo (R-Bergen) and 28 other lawmakers. That bill was molded with a raft of other similar competing measures to create the compromise substitute legislation that the Assembly Housing Committee approved. The measure now goes to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

The committee substitute calls for providing \$90 million in loans to assure that all dormitories at New Jersey's 26 public and private colleges and universities are outfitted with sprinkler systems within five years.

Senior citizen protection bill approved by Assembly

TRENTON — The General Assembly recently passed legislation sponsored by Assembly Democratic Whip Nia Gill and Assembly Associate Minority Leader Wilfredo Caraballo that would protect senior citizens from home-improvement loan scam artists.

The bill (A-298) would prohibit solicitations of senior citizens for improvement on their homes if the work were to require the assumption of a financial obligation that exceeds an elderly resident's ability to repay.

Gill and Caraballo said the measure is intended to prevent unscrupulous home-improvement loan peddlers from tricking senior citizen homeowners into assuming loan-payment obligations that could place their homes in jeopardy of foreclosure.

The bill now goes to the Senate for further legislation action.

"Senior citizens who spend a lifetime to purchase and own a home should not have all their hard work undone by a dubious, burdensome loan agreement," said Gill (D-Essex). "This bill ensures that state consumer laws will work for the benefit of senior citizens and not some fly-by-night home-improvement loan salesperson."

"This is about protecting senior citizens and a core value in our society: home ownership," said Caraballo (D-Essex). "There is absolutely zero-tolerance for solicitors who coerce senior citizens into applying for unconscionable home improvement loans."

Gill and Caraballo crafted their bill in response to a three-part series that The Asbury Park Press published in September 1998. One of the articles, "Nightmare Mortgages," outlined how predatory mortgage lenders exploit seniors and limited-income homeowners who take questionable loans with high interest rates to finance home improvement projects.

What's Your Energy I.Q.?

[Take this simple test to see how you can save.]

1. If you live in New Jersey, you can choose your natural gas and electricity suppliers.
☐ True ☐ False

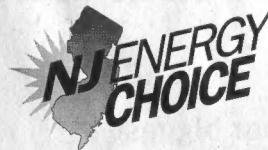
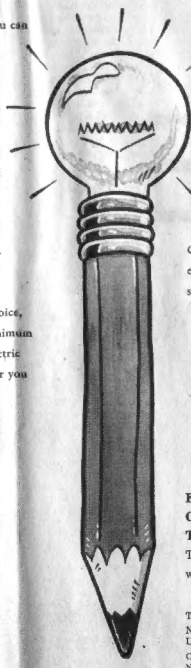
2. Deregulation and energy competition mean you have the ability to compare your current distribution company's price to supply energy and competitive suppliers' prices.
☐ True ☐ False

3. With New Jersey Energy Choice, you automatically save a minimum of 16% on your monthly electric bill over three years, whether you switch suppliers or not.
☐ True ☐ False

4. You have the ability to shop for an electricity supplier that helps to protect the environment by using cleaner, more efficient power.
☐ True ☐ False

5. New Jersey has strong "anti-slammings" laws which protect you from being switched to a new supplier without your permission.
☐ True ☐ False

You guessed it. They're all true. To learn more, call our toll-free hotline and ask for your New Jersey Energy Choice Shopping Guide. The more you know about the energy you use, the more likely you are to save money on your monthly energy bills.



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Local Briefs

BERGEN COUNTY ANNOUNCES CHILD CARE FUNDING ASSISTANCE

BERGEN COUNTY—The Bergen County Office for Children announces that funding is available to assist families with child care expenses. To qualify for assistance, parents must meet the income eligibility guidelines and be working or in school. Financial assistance can be provided for children under age 13 or up to 19 for a child with special needs. Families choose the type of child care that meets their needs. Eligible types of care include child care centers, registered family child care providers, school age child care programs, summer day camp programs, and care by a relative or friend who passes a home inspection.

The New Jersey Carers for Kids Child Care Certificate Program currently has no waiting list.

"The funds are available to assist eligible families," said Linda Krieger, Director of the Bergen County Office for Children. "Child care expenses can be a real burden for families. We want to make sure we are reaching every eligible family in Bergen County." To request an application for the New Jersey Carers for Kids Child Care Certificate Program, or for information on choosing child care, call the Bergen County Office for Children at 201-545-3954.

NEW E-Z PASS SCHEDULE AFTER STATE AMENDS CONTRACT WITH ADESTA

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—The state agreed Thursday to pay \$17 million to the contractor installing E-ZPass electronic tolls on New Jersey's two main highways, and threatened to fine the company up to \$50,000 a day if it didn't meet a new round of September deadlines.

E-ZPass, which allows drivers to pay tolls electronically without stopping at toll plazas, will be functioning at all Garden State Parkway plazas by Sept. 19 and on the New Jersey Turnpike by Sept. 30, authorities announced.

Adesta Communications Inc. had asked the authority for \$20 million to cover cost overruns that it said was not covered in the contract, such as replacing old toll plaza structures and equipment purchases.

The state reached a settlement to pay the company, formerly known as MFS Network Technologies, \$17 million, saying the company's construction costs had only gone up by 8 percent.

So far, E-ZPass has been installed on the parkway at the Hillsdale, Bergen, Essex, Union, Raritan and Asbury Park toll plazas. The tolls were scheduled to be installed at all plazas by June 10, but transportation officials said earlier this year construction would be suspended, worrying about the effects of construction on shore traffic over the summer.

Authority spokeswoman Lynn Flegenzer said Adesta would be completing much of its work on the parkway overnight and would not work at all Friday through Sunday.

While parkway toll plazas can convert to E-ZPass one at a time, the turnpike must implement the system all at once at all of its toll plazas.

Chase Manhattan Bank to move to Jersey City

NEW YORK (AP)—Chase Manhattan Bank, the second-largest bank in the country, is planning to move thousands of employees from New York City to two new office towers in Jersey City, N.J., The New York Times reported Friday.

Under terms of a deal struck between the bank, state officials and developer Samuel

J. LeFrak, LeFrak would build the towers totaling 1.1 million square feet at the Newport complex for about 4,000 employees, according to unnamed executives cited by the newspaper.

Chase would move its staff from Manhattan, and still have room to expand in Jersey City. The bank's headquarters would

remain on Park Avenue in Manhattan, The Times said.

Judy Miller, a spokeswoman for Chase, declined to comment on the move, as did the bank's broker, Insignia/ESG, and a spokesman for Samuel J. LeFrak.

LeFrak's family owns the Newport complex. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's

administration had offered the bank tax breaks to stay in New York, but the city could not compete with subsidies worth tens of millions of dollars offered by New Jersey, real estate executives and local officials told The Times.

A Giuliani spokeswoman did not return phone call requesting comment.

Corzine wins election

Continued from Page 1

seniors should not have to spend almost half of their monthly income to buy prescriptions to make them well. He said if we have to register cars, we need to register guns. What really sold me on Jon Corzine was that he said all of this not only in Newark and Camden and the Oranges and Irvington, but in Short Hills and Bedminster and Princeton. He's got a message that's good for the whole state," Jackson concluded.

Obviously it would seem that the bulk of the state liked Corzine's message and this was represented in the amount of people who turned out to support Corzine as their Democratic choice for the next United States senator from New Jersey.

Opportunity Knocks for Jersey City student

JERSEY CITY — Jersey City School District has announced a unique and innovative college scholarship program known as Opportunity Knocks (OK2) that could potentially benefit hundreds of the district students. OK2 will guarantee all qualified graduating high school students an opportunity to attend Hudson County Community College (HCCC), tuition-free for two years. OK2 would also pay for costs associated with administrative fees and books not covered by financial aid. The creation of this program will have an immediate and profound effect upon the public school

students of Jersey City. School Superintendent, Dr. Richard A. DiPatri, in making the announcement stated, "OK2 will mean much more than just dollars and cents. This program represents the fulfillment of a promise implicitly made to all of our students - their education in the Jersey City Public Schools will provide them with a future. Our economically and educationally disadvantaged children, many of whom would have never dreamed of attending college, will now have an opportunity to receive a college degree. OK2 is about changing lives, which makes it unlike

any scholarship program in the State, or perhaps, the nation."

The first district high school graduating class to be eligible for the scholarship program in 2001 will include the first participants in the district's fifteen together program, a program which was initiated to help students to stay in school who are at high risk of dropping out. The scholarship will also be available to the class of 2002. OK2 will guarantee these students an opportunity to attend HCCC and complete a two-year associates degree program. The available funding may allow the program to be extended to the graduat-

ing class of 2003 and beyond. Ultimately, it is the intent of the district to continue the scholarship program in perpetuity.

The district is exploring ways in which OK2 could continue indefinitely through additional funding. The district will likely receive additional funding pursuant to the Pepsi vending contract which the district is entitled to receive from the sales of Pepsi products in the district.

The district is also planning to meet with local business leaders to ask for their assistance with the scholarship program.

Jersey City Council faces the ire of city gardeners

JERSEY CITY—Property development in Jersey City has caused a tremendous rise in property values, and a rise in tenements as well, as many time honored traditions are being trampled under the feet of would-be developers rushing to grab land from under the very people who have lived there lives here.

"It's just sheer greed and a total disregard for our rights," stated one angry protester, who had come to the Jersey City Council to protest the impending closure of their city garden on Brunswick Street, after having it sold from under them to a private developer for \$100,000. They were given notice to vacate the property by August, at which time the garden will be bulldozed,

Flashing signs saying "save the community gardens" and "Giuliani does not live in Jersey City," protester after protester, chided the City Council and a conspicuously absent Jersey City Mayor Bret Schundler, for allowing such a travesty to occur. "We're being stabbed in the back by Schundler in the same way Giuliani does to New York City residents. I truly hope that we are not becoming the kind of community, like New York, where the dollar and political favoritism is placed above the welfare of the people who live here."

The garden, part of an Adopt-a-Lot program, had been carefully tended for two years by local citizens, who cleared it of debris, landscaped it, and planted every-

thing from decorative cabbages to tulips. The volunteers paid for their own seeds, tools, and transported their own topsoil to the site. The lot was a city owned lot, and because of that, most of the gardeners felt that it was safe from any privatization, as a result. "We were given absolutely nothing for the fact that the property was even up for sale, we found out via email that it had been sold, and only found out later the next day that the new owner wants to take possession by August. It was a total disrespect for us as residents and supporters of the mayor," stated another very angry resident.

One constituent, who addressed the city council, stated that his notes were scattered

because the city council was scattered. He said he hoped all of the members of city council would run for mayor because not only would they most certainly lose, but "it would also mean that we could be rid of all of you at the same time, and possibly be able to replace you with people who really care about what happens to the real Jersey City residents, and not just kowtow to the next person who comes dangling a dollar in front of you!"

Tom Gallagher, Schundler's aide, asserted that "we are spending more than \$2 million for the improvement of Rensselaer Park, which is located in Downtown Jersey City. That appears to be little consolation to the residents, who spend from four to eighteen

hours a week working in the garden, growing carrots, melons, flowers. Residents also lay out brick and stone walkways, to allow passageways between the rows. "If he thinks that is going to make up for all our hard work, he obviously misses the point," claim some residents.

One gardener, who thinks the sale of the property is part of an effort to make up for the deficit in the city's budget, stated, "Once again, we are being made to bear the burden for his incompetence. While everyone else gets breaks and concessions, we're losing ground, literally."

Councilwoman Melissa Holloway stated the City Council will be looking closely at what can be done to save the gardens.

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You can also shop our Half Yearly Sale on-line at www.nordstrom.com

CityLife

Travel Black America

Virginia's Black History Museum and Cultural Center a reflection of the way life used to be

Noir New Jersey: Discover it

Chicken Bone Beach

Across the Garden State you can find many places with roots in black culture, like "Chicken Bone Beach." Located in the casino capital of Atlantic City, this beach was deemed a historical site in 1997. African Americans who wished to enjoy the Atlantic City Beach during the period from 1950 through the early 1960s were socially restricted to the Missouri Avenue area. As thousands of vacationing black families flocked to the shore with their chicken-laden picnic hampers, the strip became affectionately nicknamed "Chicken Bone Beach." A black party atmosphere was enhanced by the visits of major black entertainers, such as Sammy Davis Jr., "Mo'ns" Mabley and the Club Harlem Showgirls. The first black captain of the lifeguards was Captain William "Rube" Albou. During his tenure he patrolled with a staff of 12 who ensured the safety of as many as 5,000 swimmers. "Chicken Bone Beach" survives as a symbol of family unity and African American brotherhood. Since 1997 an Annual Festival has been held during Labor Day weekend (Sept. 1-4) to pay homage to what this beach represents: unity originated from segregation.

Lawnside

The spotlight in Camden County is the historic district known as Lawnside. Located in the vicinity of White Horse Pike and Route 295, is one of the few places in the United States, besides Princeville, North Carolina, and Eastonville, Florida, that was founded as an all African American community and incorporated as a municipality. Originally settled by farmers and woodcutters in the late 1700s, the town today is a vibrant community of 2,500 — including Clarence Still, great-grandson of prominent Underground Railroad operator William Still, who operated a safe-house for blacks traveling the Railroad onto Philadelphia.

Red Bank

This small enclave is highly touted today as one of the "hippest towns" in New Jersey. As it very well should, since one of hippest cats in the world of jazz called it his home — William Count Basie. It was also home to T. Thomas Fortune, founding publisher of *The New York Age*. His Victorian-style home "Maple Hall" located at 94 W. Bergen Street, a main drag through the black side of town, otherwise known as West Side, was often visited by Booker T. Washington.

African American Firsts

An innovative exhibit highlights the achievements of individuals, some famous and some lesser known, from the first African American principal in Newark to the first African American selected as a Rhodes Scholar. This exhibit is displayed at the main library in Newark at 5 Washington Street, Newark. The exhibit includes 15 exhibit cases and posters.

Threads that bind: Kente in Ghana and America

Inspired by the recent exhibition of African kente cloth that traveled to museums from Newark to Los Angeles. The



"My Horse, My Carriage, My Land," a portrait by artist Rick Hyman, is one of several paintings that exhibit a unique genealogical research and art that celebrates the history of a memorable family.

RICHMOND, VA — Vacation time is here and it's a good time to discover your roots, as in Black history. There are a plethora of sites that you will find spiritually and culturally enriching. One such location is in Richmond, Virginia, where the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia is located.

Founded in 1981 by Carroll W. Anderson, Sr., the Black History Museum collects and exhibits artifacts and objects that serve to illustrate the histo-



An African mask that is on display at the museum.

ry of black people, with an emphasis on Virginians. Ten years after its humble beginning, the Museum moved into its present location, with an unforgettable address: 60 Clay Street, in the heart of Jackson Ward — Richmond's historically black district.

Housed in an 1832 mansion built by German descendant Adolph Dill, the property has undergone several changes

before it became home to the Black History Museum. In its first transformation, the mansion was used as an officer's club for black servicemen during WWI. By 1922, Maggie L. Walker, the country's first Black female bank president, along with the Council of Colored Women, purchase the home to use as the Council's headquarters.

This historically charged building is a perfect site for its new exhibit which opened June 2 and runs through August 6: "Remembering Their Homeland: The Story of One Virginia Family." A riveting exhibition that chronicles the legacy of Henderson Martin and family who in one generation, went from being Virginia slaves to owning 2,000 acres of oil-producing property in Southern Texas during the early 1900s.

"Remembering Their Homeland," features heirlooms of Henderson Martin, and Martin's great-grandson, The story begins in 1865, Henderson

'Remembering Their Homeland,' features heirlooms of Henderson Martin, and Martin's great-grandson. The story begins in 1865, Henderson recently freed slave, along with his family, set out across the country in a covered wagon in an attempt to create a better life.

Martin, a recently freed Virginia slave, along with his family, set out across the country in a covered wagon in an attempt to cre-

ate a better life. The Martin's could not have imagined what was in store for them as they settled in Fayette County, Texas. Within one generation, the Martins' achieved a better life as they prospered on their Texas



A maid station display

oil-rich land. The 2000-acre parcel of land fed cattle and provided the Martin's with horses and carriages, a stagecoach, four cars, plenty of silver, and fancy clothes.

One hundred years later, the great-grandson of Henderson Martin, artist Rick Hyman, has pieced together his heritage and has assembled a remarkable collection of jewelry, and over 300 photographs of his ancestors from 1912 to 1927. Consumed with a desire to honor and preserve his family's legacy, Hyman began to create paintings based on the historic family photographs.

"This is not your average exhibition," comments Charles E. Bethea, executive director of the Black History Museum. "The images and artifacts in this exhibition not only preserve a real life 'rags to riches' fairy tale and

the legacy of one family, but they also offer a rare glimpse into turn-of-the-century African American success stories that seem to be left out of history book." Bethea continued.

The exhibition is rich with vintage faux jewelry and archival documents of Henderson Martin's land in Texas centered around 15 magnificent paintings...

high and lows of this unique family. The first image of Hyman's developing series is a painting entitled "My Texas Family." In the painting, Hyman's great-grandfather, Henderson Martin, sits proudly on the running board of his four Model-T Fords, accompanied by his wife and two daughters. Hyman manages the odd formality of the original portrait with a dynamic brushstroke and brilliant colors that approach a folk art style. A reproduction of this work was displayed in the living room on the set of the Bill Cosby Show.

Titles of the other works in the exhibition such as "Hattie Plays Her Mandolin," "Southern Gentlemen on a Sunday Afternoon," and "My Horse, My Carriage, My Land," give a clue to the wide variety of family moments that are portrayed in the paintings. Hyman's exhibition is a unique combination of genealogical research and art that celebrates the history of a memorable family during a time long past.

The Garden State: One stop cultural shopping

Newark Museum at 49 Washington Street continues the exploration of artistic and cultural themes surrounding kente. This exhibit focuses on the making and selling of kente in Ghana, its significance to the Asante people in that country and the meaning kente has for New Jerseyans. Gov. Whitman is adorned in a kente cloth jacket as she delivered a message of unity at the observance honoring Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday at Rutgers University in January. Kente has come a long way. A complete loom, photographs and videos are featured, along with samples and stories on kente cloth for families to read.

A Black guide to shopping

Afridesia 21 Broad Street Red Bank

Afridesia is a unique concept of museum and gift store combined with all items on sale. This one of a kind store will astound customers with its unusual array of authentic African Art — sculpted pieces that are out of this world (life-size onyx, limestone, carved benches, etc.) to furniture (dining room sets) and decorative little gift items (candles, trinkets, chimes, etc.). Prices range from outlandish (considering your personal empowerment zone) to quite reasonable. This two-story showcase brimming with exquisite African art is well worth the trip — Exit 109 Garden State Parkway. It's an art collectors paradise.

The Jazz Store 212 Glenridge Ave. Montclair

The Jazz Store claims to have the largest selection of hard-to-find jazz audio and collectibles "under one roof." Framed photos of your favorite jazz artists may also be found in this unique shop. The focus here, says the owner, is on "Classical Jazz."

Tunde Dada House of Africa 356 Main St. Orange

This may be one of the largest African stores of its kind in New Jersey. If you are looking for special gifts, crafts, fabric, jewelry and music created by Africans and African Americans, visit here. A wide range of renowned African American artists prints along with books and wooden carved pieces are great finds. If you're looking for that special decorative pillow there's no need to look any further than Tunde Dada. Cards are also a big seller at this unique store.

Ourestory 1318 South Ave. Plainfield

This unique bookstore sells a wide variety of books and gift items. If you are looking for something special call ahead or stop by, they very well may have what you're looking for.

Temitayo's Place 1440 Queen Ann Rd. Teaneck

African art, artifacts, sculptures, jewelry, greeting cards, candles and tow lines of collectible figurines are part of the large selection of African and African American products and gift items to choose from. Temitayo's also carries a large book selection by African and African American authors, as well as health and beauty products.

Information compiled from the State of New Jersey's Visiting Guide to African American Heritage and Attractions and Nuaba Express.

The mushroom that consumed an entire ninth-grade class.



It all started very innocently with a small discovery in the woods near Memorial School in Millville, New Jersey. Biology students exploring the wetlands came upon a mushroom they'd never seen before. Textbooks failed to identify the unusual fungus.

That's when Ray Jacobs' ninth-grade class became consumed by something really big.

With the help of high-speed Internet access provided by Bell Atlantic, students found a fungus expert at the

University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. They took photos of their mushroom, emailed Professor Tom Volk and in no time at all had their mushroom identified. Through the use of interactive video technology, they could even ask him questions directly.

Discoveries like this are taking place every day all over New Jersey. High-speed Internet connections and interactive video technology open doors and bring the world to the classroom by offering access to people, places and ideas regardless

of geographic constraints. Bell Atlantic's vision for the future of learning is a reality in New Jersey.

And it's just the beginning. For ninth graders in Millville, Access New JerseySM means instant access to a world of knowledge. Which means they can spend less time in front of their computers and more time learning from the world just outside their doors. So while some believe technology is making the world a smaller place, we believe it's making the world bigger.



climacodon septentrionalis, THE NORTHERN TOOTH FUNGUS.



Bell Atlantic's commitment of \$90 million to deploy a high-speed network, and free equipment to connect to the network, provides New Jersey schools K-12 and public libraries with Internet access, interactive video and high-speed data transfer capabilities.



Access the future.



www.accessthefuture.net

Heartbeat Calendar

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

NEW BRUNSWICK — St. Peter's University Hospital sponsors an outdoor sports program 6 p.m. For further information, call (732) 937-0011

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

NEWARK — The High Rollers MC presents the 1st Annual Women That Ride, from 1-7 p.m. For more information, call (908) 413-5810

MONDAY, JUNE 12

NEWARK — The EMS Training Institute of Cathedral System will be offering an EMT course. For further information, call (973) 877-5054

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

TOMS RIVER — The Chidren Specialized Hospital Golf Outing. For further information, call (908) 301-5409

NEW BRUNSWICK — Saint Peter's University Hospital hosts a diabetes support group at 7 p.m. For further information, call (732) 745-8474

NEW BRUNSWICK — A grandparents class will be held at St. Peter's University Hospital from 4-6 p.m. For further information, call (732) 745-8579

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

NEW BRUNSWICK — A nicotine dependency support group will be held at St. Peter's University Hospital. For further information, call (732) 937-6050

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Adolescent Family Awareness hosts a Father/Son program at 2 p.m. For further information, call (908) 334-0595

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

PARSIPPANY — The American Cancer Society and Merck & Co. Inc. present a road race and fun walk. For further information, call (908) 423-9374

Mail your health calendar items to:
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Newark, NJ 07102
Email: citynews@msn.com

Protect yourself from hay fever

TRENTON — Come spring, the grass turns green and flowers start to blossom. However, for many people, springtime allergies, also known as "hay fever," begin to sprout as well.

For hay fever sufferers, watery eyes, runny noses, and sneezing are as common as spring fever.

The body's immune system is designed to protect against infection by bacteria or viruses. When the immune system mistakenly identifies pollen, dust or dander as an infectious agent, it releases histamine to stimulate body defenses, says Robert Robinson, M.D., chief medical officer of Horizon Medical. The histamine causes the sneezing, watery eyes, swelling and runny noses that we refer to as hay fever.

Even though there is no known way to prevent hay fever, it is possible to lessen, and sometimes even prevent, symptoms. Dr. Robinson recommends hay fever sufferers follow these guidelines to help them cope with this year's allergy season.

1. Stay outside during peak pollen hours. These are usually mornings on dry, windy days. "Also find out the peak pollen count, which is often reported in the newspaper and on TV newscasts," advises Dr. Robinson. "On days when the pollen count is high, curtail your outdoor activities."

2. Turn your air conditioner on and close your windows. Also, make sure to vacuum your carpets and change air filters regularly. "They are prime places for pollen to collect," says Dr. Robinson.

3. Keep pets free of dander and pollen. "Even if you're not allergic to animal dander, your pets' fur collects pollen," says Dr. Robinson. "Bathe your pets regularly and, at least during allergy season, keep them out of your bedroom."

By following these guidelines, you may significantly reduce the ill-effects and nuisance that hay fever brings at this time of year.

Pastor's prostate cancer inspires health awareness mission

By Debra Harding

The tragic saga continues — one useless death after another. Each year more than 40,000 American men die needlessly from prostate cancer because they fail to be diagnosed in time. Even more alarming is the fact that black men are 2 1/2 times more likely to be diagnosed and die from this disease. These startling facts alone were enough to propel Rev. Thomas L. Walker on a mission that began almost four years ago. He recalls a statement made by Don Speaks, conference coordinator for "Brother Can We Talk About It," a conference held in Atlanta, Georgia on May 2, 1998. "... if black people, especially black men do not start taking control of our own personal health status we will be on the verge of extinction by the end of the 21st century!" That statement confirmed what Rev. Walker already knew — that the business of our health must become a higher priority if we want to survive as a race of people. It is no accident that he is seeking to involve his entire family because statistics show that men whose ancestors had prostate cancer are at a higher risk of being diagnosed with this deadly disease.

When Rev. Walker was diagnosed with prostate cancer in January 1996 at the age of 47, he soon began to realize the tragic state of affairs of 300 million across this country. As he began to gather information to evaluate his own treatment options, he made some other shocking discoveries.

• Prostate cancer is the second cause of cancer death among men in the United States.
• Every three minutes a new case of prostate cancer is diagnosed.
• Every 13 minutes someone dies from prostate cancer.
• Prostate cancer can be

treated and cured if diagnosed in time.

• Statistics for the number of prostate cancer incidences and deaths are greatly understated.

Several leading urologists agree that too many radical surgeries are being performed in time. When Rev. Walker learned how many men die daily from this dreadful disease, he knew he must launch a mission to educate men, especially black men. Walker's concern is that men not only be diagnosed in time, but that they be fully

Rev. Walker recalled the words from the Holy Bible written in Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge," and he stepped out on that basic truth.

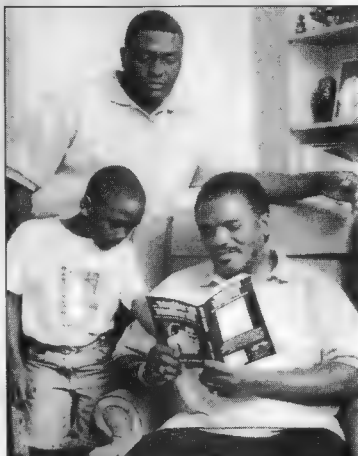
informed of treatment options. Although it was an enormous undertaking, it seemed so natural for this Baptist minister who was already in the business of saving lives. He is constantly in demand to do seminars and make speeches on this subject across the nation.

He occasionally appears on panels with such well-known prostate cancer activist Dr. Brown, national motivational speaker, and Bob Samuels, Founding Chairman of the National Prostate Cancer Coalition. Walker was the North Carolina chairman in 1998 for THE MARCH — a grassroots campaign to make the cure and prevention of cancer the nation's top research priority. He appeared on national TV with

Rev. Jesse Jackson and other national leaders calling for greater support for cancer research.

For the past 30 years Rev. Walker has pastored the Pioneer Missionary Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. He is nationally known for the hit recording he made in the late 70's entitled "One Day at a Time." Walker recited the words from the Holy Bible written in Hosea 4:6, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge," and he stepped out on that basic truth. It was quite evident that many men are dying because of ignorance concerning prostate cancer.

This is so unfortunate because prostate cancer is usually treatable and curable, if it is caught in time. In 1998 Rev. Walker completed a family health book entitled "Brother To Brother-You Don't Have To Die With Prostate Cancer." This book chronicles his struggles with the challenge of prostate cancer and focuses on the importance of viewing the diagnosis of this disease as a "family disease." "Brother To Brother" includes chapters from his wife, Joyce, and their two adult children, Rev. Timothy Walker and attorney Teresa Walker Mason. This easy-to-read book also includes Rev. Walker's documented medical records from his diagnosis until his cure in 1997. At the age of 51, Rev. Walker is heavily into physical fitness — walking and running several hours per week. He's also involved with regiments of the "Living Fruits and Vegetables" and the use of a variety of herbs. He happily shares the results of his health, which continue to reveal an excellent PSA reading of less than 0.3. Rev. Walker is convinced that African Americans must make health our number one priority by changing eating habits, exercising, working to reduce our stress level and above all, seeking to



Shown here are Rev. Thomas L. Walker (seated) with his son, Rev. Timothy E. Walker Sr. (standing behind him), and his grandson, Timothy J. Walker. File photo

gain more knowledge about ways we can prevent the disproportionate number health problems in our community. When asked why he would dedicate so much time and energy to writing his book, Walker responded, "I'm convinced the Lord allowed me to have this disease and to be properly treated and cured in order that I might get involved with the mission to educate as many families as possible about the importance of prevention and early detection." His treatment of choice was brachytherapy. Radiation seeding is a more common term, which is a process of inserting radiation

seeds directly into the prostate. Rev. Walker stated that this procedure resulted in no side effects, and he is extremely pleased that the Lord allowed him to be healed through this method. Walker has also formed an association with other prostate cancer survivors across the nation, called Brother To Brother Associates.

He is organizing Brother To Brother support groups through churches and civic organizations when given the opportunity. He is currently doing research for his new book entitled, "The Wedding of Traditional and Holistic Medicine."

Doctor's no smoking message reaches Essex, Union teens



ELIZABETH — A local physician was tired of seeing teens smoking on his way to work every day. But instead of just thinking about getting teens to not smoke, Dr. William Kessler of Trinitas Hospital went ahead and did something about it. Working with the Essex and Union Communities Against Tobacco Coalition, he spearheaded a plan to put up anti-smoking billboard advertising in Elizabeth where he frequently saw the teens.

On Wednesday, May 31, the CAT Coalition celebrated "World No Tobacco Day" and the posting of billboard #3032 on Pearl Street by bringing together Dr. Kessler, his fellow physicians, Elizabeth students, and coalition members to speak out against the problem of tobacco use among teens.

The coalition's main goals include:

- Reducing the initiation of tobacco use among youth
- Eliminating the public's exposure to environmental tobacco smoke
- Promoting and supporting tobacco use cessation
- Eliminating disparities among population groups

Although young people continue to use tobacco products at unacceptably high levels, a survey recently released by the NJ State Department of Health &

Senior Services shows that middle and high school students in Union and Essex Counties have the lowest prevalence rates among all other counties in New Jersey. Currently, according to the survey, the percentages of middle and high school students in the two counties who smoke cigarettes are 9.7% and 19.3% respectively, compared with rates as high as 13.9% and 30.5% in other regions of the state.

Visiting Nurse and Health Services in Elizabeth has been the lead agency for the CAT Coalition for the past eight years. A similar program called ASSIST had been in existence and was also run by VNHS for eight years before the CAT Coalition began. Both programs have actively worked with school and community groups through prevention, education, and policy change to decrease tobacco use and counter the effects of the tobacco industry marketing. It is hoped that through the work of coalition members like Dr. Kessler, strides will continue to be made against the deleterious effects of tobacco.

For more information please contact Karen Kalinski, CAT Field Director, at (908) 352-5694 ext. 4251 or Judith Ingram, CAT Field Coordinator, at (908) 352-5694 ext. 4521

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Source: Target Market Research, Inc. 1996

Published every Wednesday

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MUSIC



Various Artists Love & Basketball

The "Love & Basketball" soundtrack serves us with familiar sounds, of soul, garnished with classic hip-hop.

The lead single, "Dance Tonight" by Lucy Pearl (composed of Raphael Saadiq, Dawn Robinson, and Ali Shaheed Muhammad) is highly nostalgic of the now defunct Tony! Toni! Toné! "Dance Tonight" possesses that same aura that created the powerful longevity for a Tony! Toni! Toné! track. The album flavors are accentuated by the classic soul sounds of Al Green and Roger Troutman, as well as Angie Stone's rendition of "Holding Back The Years."

This compilation of smooth R&B and soul has been textured with the contrasting hip hop classics "It Takes Two" by Rob Base & DJ EZ Rock and "Lyte as a Rock" by MC Lyte. However, Will.i.am of Black Eyed Peas seems in the mood (with assistance of Les Nubians) by giving birth to the heart-filled "Complete Beloved." This project is comprised of those who appreciate a strong

MUSIC NOTES

Eminem sells 1.7 million copies of his album in first week

NEW YORK (AP) — Rapper Eminem sold 1.7 million copies of his new album last week, blowing past the sunny teen pop stars he disdains.

"The Marshall Mathers LP" is second only to N' Sync's "No Strings Attached" as the fastest-selling album in the nine years that the industry-tracking company Soundscan has been keeping accurate count. No other rap album has sold so many copies in its first week.

Eminem, who also goes by the nickname Slim Shady, has a profane style akin to a musical horror movie. He gained street credibility when his own mother sued him for defamation of character.

MTV built anticipation for the album with heavy airtime, letting Eminem serve as host of a two-hour "Eminem" special the weekend before the May 23 release date. He was a guest on the network's popular "Total Request Live" the first afternoon the album was on sale.

His appeal lies primarily with rap and rock fans but has crossed over into MTV's larger pop audience, said Tom Calderone, MTV senior vice president for music programming.

"As far as aggressive hip-hop or rock, there isn't anything new out there," Calderone said. "He's a welcome new sound that hit the stores at a time people hadn't heard it for a while. Eminem pushes aside — at least for a week — the teen pop he has mocked. His album came a week after Britney Spears sold 1.3 million copies of her new CD, which temporarily put her second to N' Sync."

It means the three fastest-selling albums have come in the last two months.

Soundscan has measured music sales since 1991, precise sales figures from before that are considered unreliable.

Eminem has rapped that the popular boy and girl groups "make me sick" and joked in his music about Spears and Christina Aguilera performing a sex act on him.

'Mother Africa' Miriam Makeba in rare form at City Center

By Gloria Dulán-Wilson

When Oprah Winfrey recently did a show featuring women who defy age, and retain their beauty past the age of fifty, she missed the man one — Miriam Makeba. Affectionately known as "Mothey" African, Makeba defies all the stereotypes many have formed of a woman nearing her seventies.

In New York recently to launch her new CD, "Homeland," her first in six years, which represents many of her traditional, tune honored recordings, including the popular "Pata Pata." At a signing in her honor, held at Blackberry, a trendy Afrocentric shop in Macy's New York, Makeba paused to give a brief interview.

Asked how her life had been since returning to South Africa, she quipped in that genteel voice of hers, "Things have been wonderful. There are still many challenges, but we are making great progress."

Flanked by her sister, who resides in Westchester, New York, and admirers of all walks of life, Makeba still retains the girlish smile, and wit, charm and energy.

Makeba had to flee South Africa in her youth to escape the horrors of apartheid, the racist regime of Africaners bent on genocide. She was befriended by singer/actor/activist Harry Belafonte, who performed with her on television shows in the 50's at a time when many were not cognizant of the plight of Blacks in South Africa.

Makeba was one of the first women to maintain her hair in the natural hairstyle, an aspiration to many African American women in the sixties during the Black power movement. Makeba was also one of the first women of African heritage to gain popularity in the United States for her song styling. She was married for a period of time to renowned jazz trumpeter, Hugh Masakela, also from South Africa.

But it was her subsequent

marriage to black power icon Stokely Carmichael, aka Kwame Ture, that caused her to fall out of favor with white audiences, while at the same time adding to her fame and engendering respect and love in the hearts of millions of Black people the world over. In an effort to crush her career, the white recording empire banned her recordings, cancelled her contract, and revoked her visa. Makeba and Ture took refuge in the Tanzanian embassy when racist police in New York tried to



arrest Carmichael for "crimes" which were really his efforts to bring the truth to millions of Africans and African Americans about their value as people of history.

We marvelled at how wonderful she looked, with traditional beads across her forehead, encircling her short, cropped haircut, traditionally worn by many women of South Africa.

Makeba and Carmichael subsequently were spirited away and lived in Guinea at the invitation of then president Sekou Toure. Though she and

Carmichael subsequently divorced, they remained friends and compatriots, supportive of each other's efforts in the liberation of South Africa as well as other African countries. She participated in a fundraiser held in his honor when it became known that he was suffering from prostate cancer, and made a surprise appearance at the Apollo Theater in Harlem several years ago, to the surprise and adoring audience.

When asked what she had been doing the past few years, since the liberation of South Africa and the election of Nelson Mandela, she stated, again quietly and serenely, "I have been working wherever I am needed. There is so much to be done, it's difficult to limit myself to just one area."

If she thought that she had been forgotten, she had only to look at the line around the corner at Blackberry that began forming before 12 noon, even though she was not scheduled to begin singing at 12:30, and ending after 2:30 pm. Many admirers showed up at the last minute.

But even greater evidence of the love for Makeba came the following evening at the City Center concert, "Badena 2000 - Voices of Hope," which featured artists from the Gambia, Guinea, Nigeria and Madagascar (Malawi Republic).

That genteel speaking voice was transformed into that wonderful, vibrant, solid, soul stirring voice we all know and love. The City Center was packed to the roof, and was standing room only, with people coming from as far as Washington, D.C. to hear the songstress. Many of us who grew up listening to Makeba, or attending her concerts, were in the audience who were just becoming acquainted with this lifelong

We marvelled at how wonder-



Miriam Makeba. File photo

ful she looked, with traditional beads across her forehead, encircling her short, cropped haircut, traditionally worn by many women of South Africa. She undulated across that stage with movements that put a 20 year old to shame, and certainly made those of us who considered ourselves over the mark reconsider our own abilities. She executed traditional dance movements as well as improvised and adlibbed her way through nearly three hours on stage. And the audience lapped it up. The only thing missing was dance space so we could get down with her. Many of us made up for it by dancing in our seats or in the aisles.

On hand for the VIP post

reception were Djibril Diallo of Senegal and head of UN Communications, comedienne Phyllis Yvonne Stickney of "X" and "Jungle Fever," song stylist Floxidee Bee, who is herself launching a new album; K. Mensah Wali, founder of the African Street Festival, the dynamic publishing duo, twin brothers Oko and Jolo Nyaku of Ghana and a host of others.

The consensus is that the event was a hit, the CD "Homeland" will be a hit, and we need to see more of Makeba. The album is on the Putumayo label and is available in most record stores. Give it a listen and learn why Makeba will be forever known as "Mother Africa."

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Saluting Black artists during Black History Month

Soul music finds itself reincarnated through Neo-Soul

By Rob Williams
Staff Writer

When UNC law school graduate Kedar Massenberg was first introduced to the world to his label, Kedar Entertainment, many saw the start of a small but potentially profitable label, but not the coming of a movement.

But today, Massenberg has left his stamp on music in a short period of time, as a commander of the soul revolution taken place on the battle lines of music.

Massenberg, now president of Motown Records, is drawing comparisons to Berry Gordy, and for good reason. The young executive has produced the soldiers at the front line, mainly Erykah Badu and Chico DeBarge (who were both signed to Kedar Entertainment before it joined Massenberg when he went to Motown). He is composing a label with such a different R&B style that it could not be tucked under the R&B genre, but became sub-genre now popularly termed "Neo-Soul."

Whether music observers consider it more worthy to sit next to the original Soul artists, open thing is certain: no matter what you want to call it, it is calling music listeners everywhere.

This is evident not just on the music charts, but at the many other labels following Motown's lead into the Neo-Soul revolution. It the next great thing taking over the airwaves and music labels. Now that Motown has had tremendous success, every label is scurrying to pump their contribution to the movement through its new artists.

Atlantic Records holds its hope in the likes of Miami native J-Shell, who clocks in as its only R&B crooner. Carl Thomas is capturing the soul of millions of fans with his everlasting radio hit, "I Wish," helping Bad Boy Entertainment and Ariola Records. Columbia Records found its "Superstar" (one of the aptly titled songs on her last album) in Lauryn Hill. Warner Bros. Records is now treating its long term investment, Eric Benet right, who has been getting some respect from the label since 1996, when the seeds of the revolution were planted. LaFace Records is currently coming strong with R&B sensation Donell Jones and his string of hits (and upcoming hits) and coming head strong is Virgin Records with D'Angelo, who is creating a legend for himself with his first release in five years. Digging from the inspiration that spawned three of the last decade's most success groups (En Vogue, Tony/Toni/Tonel, and A Tribe Called Quest), the supergroup Lucy Pearl is also bringing its contribution to the Neo-Soul movement. These are just few well-known, but there are many more to come.

This trend is, given its short rise to success, is telling music observers something that many thought would happen a long time from now: listeners are growing tired of the same manufactured hip-hop that has raised the airwaves since large distributors saw the mainstream money potential in the genre.

Lately, more audiences are looking for something other than the songs about money, drugs, sex, and other types of mayhem that was very popularized with the onslaught of lesser quality artists making the video rounds at MTV. Now that Neo-Soul is here, it is definitive refuge for those listeners.

Yet, in all of Neo-Soul's glory, will it see the fadish fate that clipped the Motown Sound, the 70s soul, the 1980s balladeers period, and New Jack Swing? If history is a predictor fate, most certainly Neo-Soul does stand to be left on the trail of music history that knocked its predecessors off track. But with the newfound interest and tributes to the artists of the past, the growing greatest hits collection, and the practice of reaching back into past music subgenres, the eventual fall of Neo-Soul is a fall into obscurity. But probably the foreseeable fate of something even more unique to come.



Earth, Wind & Fire File photo



Aretha Franklin File photo



D'Angelo File photo



Lauryn Hill File photo

But the wicked one probably said it best when he asked the question 'Do you like sweet music that sweet soul music because it is swingin', oh yeah, oh yeah' it ain't nothing else like it.



Smookey Robinson File photo

A tribute to those who didn't just sing, they sang!

By Gilda Rogers
Staff Writer

"The joy in life is loving you ... and let me say before I forget 'cause loving you baby is where it's at yeah ahhh baby look what you've done for me ... aahh yeah you set my heart free." These unforgettable lyrics sung by the incomparable Al Green still conjure up something very romantic, endearing and sweet — something that doesn't quite come across in the bulk of today's music.

Each new generation of musical artists over the years have set the standard for the zeitgeist. And each generation thinks their sound during their time is the absolute best. Right? And though the intent is not to knock or downplay the talent pool of artists out there today, it must be said — that pool is shallow.

The musical genius of Stevie Wonder as of today has not been matched and probably never will. Who wants to forget the unforgettable sound of the Ohio Players, you can't. Newbirth, who raised the musical roof with "Wildflower." And Stephanie Mills — her yellow brick road has turned into one of dirt — because rumor has it that she can't buy a recording contract. "But Your Body In It," Stephanie Mills, "Feel the Fire" Stephanie Mills, like "Home" Stephanie Mills. Steph can still chirp. But since the industry today dictates the use of a rapid lethal tongue to insure a No. 1 with a bullet notch, Steph is "Lost and Turned Out," as the Whispers might say. The mighty mighty Ojays said "Give the People What They Want," and people, some anyway, are dying to hear good, hardcore R&B.

In recognition of Black Music Month, the favorable pendulum seems to be swinging in the direction of real live instruments showing up again, which have been on hiatus far too long. There's even a rumor that Sade is working on

something suave — with good lyrics, melody and a bridge — the basis of classic R&B. Turning up the notch a bit demands you throw in some funk like Sylvester Stewart and crew did, aka Sly and The Family Stone. This group had everybody bamboozled with a fusion of R&B, rock and funk all under one roof. We were "One Nation Under a Groove, gettin' down just for the funk of it."

But the wicked one probably said it best when he asked the question "Do you like sweet music that sweet soul music because it is swingin', oh yeah, oh yeah." It ain't nothing else like it.

Labels like Stax out of Memphis had a stable of great artists that were some sangin' folks — like the Staple Singers, Emotions, Carla Thomas, Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, Sam and Dave, Booker T & The M.G.'s and the Barkays. In Detroit there was, Tamla, and Gordy under the Motown empire, which produced a juggernaut sound — Martha and the Vandellas, The Supremes, The Marvelettes, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Gladys and her Pips, Valerie Simpson, Mary Wells, and Kim Weston. Curtis was doing his thing in Chicago with his Cureton label that brought us The Chiffons. And Philly's Groove gave us The Delphonics. The Savoy label out of Newark gave us many jazz greats.

Soul music, indeed, has been a major influence socially and historically reaching far and wide across land and sea. It's as spirited as Chivas Regal, supporting a gallant court — The Queen of Soul, The Godfather of Soul, Prince, and The King of Pop — who everybody but Whitney seems to know is the gloved one, so let's not get it twisted.

Black Music Month is something to sing and shout about — "Celebrate Good Times 'Cmon, it's a celebration" — an Earth, Wind and Fire shattering affect — a 3-2-1-ing!

CLASSIFIEDS

ADVERTISEMENTS FOR BIDS

The Housing Authority of the City of Long Branch
Garfield Court Administration Building
P.O. Box 337
Long Branch, New Jersey 07740

SEALED BIDS FOR THE FIRE ALARM/INTERCOM SYSTEM FOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY DEVELOPMENTS

The Long Branch Housing Authority shall receive bids by June 16, 2000, at the Administration office of the Housing Authority until 2:00 p.m. At 2:30 p.m. all bids shall be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids must be submitted prior to the designated time for acceptance and opening of bids and be submitted either by mail or in person by bidder or his agent. No bids shall be accepted after the designated time.

All bids shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the name of the bidder and clearly marked "Fire Alarm/intercom System".

The information for bidder, form of bid and specifications may be reviewed and obtained at the offices of the Long Branch Housing Authority at any time during the regular business hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday starting Wednesday, June 7, 2000. After June 28, 2000 telephone the Long Branch Housing Authority at (732) 225-2747 ext. 110 with any questions.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certification by the bidder regarding equal opportunity employment practice.

The Authority does not obligate itself to accept the lowest bid and reserves the right to waive any information in the bidder or to accept or reject any or all bids if deemed in the best interest of the Authority.

William J. Lau, PHM, Executive Director
Housing Authority of the City of Long Branch
May 30, 2000

\$67 01

Ponder This...

By Greg Moore

With the first pick, the Nets pick...

What a year for the New Jersey Nets to have the first pick in the NBA draft.

It's not only the first draft of the new millennium, but it's also the first draft in a long time with no impact players. I thought last year was bad.

But next to Kenyon Martin and Chris Mihns, Elton Brand, Steve Francis and Lamar Odom look like hall-of-famers. Lets face it, the Nets have not been one of the luckiest franchises around, and the fact that they won the first pick this year, despite having only a four percent chance, proves that lady luck does indeed have a sense of humor.

The Nets winning the first pick this year is sort of like the guy who wins a \$50K Mercedes on a game show who is then informed, back stage that he will probably have to sell it to pay the \$20K in taxes which he will owe Uncle Sam.

Be that as it may, the Nets must now decide who they want to make a millionaire and the pickings are pretty slim. Clearly, any discussion about the first pick must involve Cincinnati's Kenyon Martin. Martin is a physically gifted player who blocks shots, rebounds, and could provide the type of toughness the Nets lack, with Jason Williams out. But Martin is undersized at 6-9, and I wonder how good of a shot blocker he will be at the next level.

However, Martin like the other prospects this year, is no impact player. Iowa State's Marcus Fizer and LSU's Stromile Swift have lots of talent, but they are not assured stardom either. As for 4-foot Chris Mihns, I'll just ask you one question: who's Jon Koncak, Joe Kiser, Eric Montross, Dwayne Schintz, Shawn Bradley, Luc Longley, Michael Olowunkand and Bryant Reeves all have in common?

Answer, they are all 7-foot tall, slow, and first round picks who all matured into big-time major-league busts. Chris Mihns is a player in the tradition of those guys. If the Nets pick Mihns it would be a grave mistake because he's too slow and not physical enough to compete with other NBA centers. My suggestion would be to explore trades. As I see it, I'd rather trade the first pick for a couple of valuable role players, than to use it to draft one role player. Rather than play who wants to be a millionaire, the Nets should play like make a deal.

In an effort to fill their vacant GM and head coach positions, last week the Nets flirted with former Georgetown head coach John Thompson. It was reported that Thompson wanted to be the coach and GM. At press time, it appears as if Thompson's name is beginning to fade out of contention. This is a mistake.

Thompson would bring to the Nets something they have lacked for a long time stature. Thompson, because of who he is and what he has done would command the respect of his players from the start. Thompson has also proven himself to be an astute judge of talent. Just consider the many former Georgetown players who are now in the NBA. Hey Nets, make the smart move and hire Thompson because he's clearly a good fit.

Got a chance to catch Bobby Knight on ESPN last week. If his goal was to repair a badly sullied image (no pun intended, remember the toilet paper incident?), then the guy should have stayed away from the media. Bobby Knight has even more clueless than many of us suspected. Washington Post Columnist Michael Wilentz wrote that Bobby Knight doesn't remember having to say you're sorry. You would think Knight would use the forum of a nationally televised special to do just that. Perhaps if Knight spelled sorry with one "r" instead of two, he would be able to announce it easier since he appears to have a facility with four letter words. Maybe if Knight got a little taste of his own treatment he'd understand that he's been wrong. If I were Indiana University President Myles Brand, I would have sentenced Knight to endure being thrown into a trash can, have sold toilet paper wadded in his face (yes folks, Knight did that too), and I would have had former player kick, choke and headbutt Knight.

Afterward, I would ask him if he now appreciated the wrongful nature of his conduct. If not, then I would fire him.

Nets support youth of Greater Newark



(L to r): Nets Senior VP Willis Reed, Bloomfield College Asst. Dean Student Affairs Patrick Lamy, Jacklyn Pennington, and Nets Guard Stephon Marbury. Photo courtesy of the New Jersey Nets.

EAST RUTHERFORD—Bloomfield College's Jacklyn Pennington, a native of Newark was awarded a New Jersey Nets Scholarship recently prior to the Nets home game versus the Denver Nuggets.

The \$4,000 scholarship, to be paid over the course of four years, was presented on behalf of the New Jersey Nets Foundation through the team's Community Youth Organization. The CVO awarded \$200,000 in scholarship money last season to deserving students from New Jersey who plan to attend or are currently attending in-state universities as well as two or four-year colleges.

"The Nets organization has

always been committed to being a pro-active member of the community and fostering the development of area youth," said Nets President Michael Rowe. "This is the second year of the Nets Scholarship Program, and we are pleased to provide a needed financial boost to a diversified number of college-bound students in our community."

Jacklyn is a 1999 graduate of Jersey Prep High School with a 3.0 GPA and is currently a freshman at Bloomfield College, majoring in business. In addition to singing in two choirs at church, she participated in the Praise Dance organization and step team, performing and training children for these activities.

Local golf events to test NJ players' skills

VERNON — New Jersey area amateurs can test their golf skills when the Toyota Golf Skills Challenge comes to Vernon's Spa 9 Golf Course, June 23-25. More than 750 area amateurs are expected to participate in the local stop of the 23-city National Tour, which debuted in 1995.

The Toyota Golf Skills Challenge takes approximately 2 1/2 hours to complete and tests participants in a series of eight skills, which include: long drive, short iron, trouble shot, greenside bunker, middle-iron shot, chip shot, pitch over hazard and putting. Players are allowed three attempts at each shot, with only the best shot counting toward their overall event scores. Divisions are offered for men (high and low handicaps), women, senior men (age 50 and older), juniors (age 14-17) and kids (age 8-13). Each of the Toyota Golf Skills Challenge city champions will advance to the National Finals, Oct. 20-21, 2000, in Myrtle Beach, S.C. for an opportunity to win a 2001 Toyota Avalon.

The Toyota Golf Skills Challenge is patterned after the professional EMC Golf Skills Challenge.

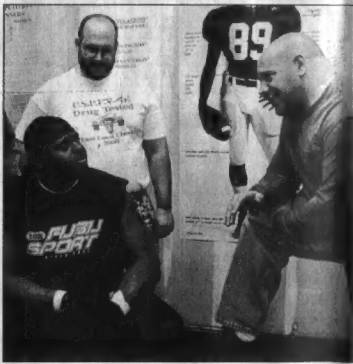
Registration is \$35 per player (including cart) and tee times are available by calling (800) 932-8387. Event information also is available via www.toyotagolfskills.com. Tee times are available from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and are offered on a first-come, first-served basis to individuals or groups of up to six people. A portion of the entry fee benefits New Jersey-area junior golf programs.

What's happening on the greens around town

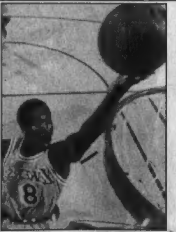
The United Way of Union County will hold its first Annual Golf Classic to benefit the Year 2000 Children's Initiative. The event will be held June 12 at Shickamaxon on Golf and Country Club in Scotch Plains. Your swing can really make a difference.

Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation will present its 11th Annual Golf Classic on July 24 at Montclair Golf Club in West Orange at 12:30 p.m.

Covington's power lifting skills earns championship status



New Jersey City University senior Simod Covington (eaten) of Irving, lifted a total of 1,228 pounds to place fourth in the University's recent "Power Lifting Meet," one in a series of campus events held during NJCU's seventh annual "Health & Wellness Week." Mr. Covington, who played as a lineman in the Texas Spring Football League in Houston, was congratulated by fellow competitors Pat Cuthers of West Paterson, (center) a computer science teacher at Bergen County Academics, and Competition coordinators Jan Schlegel (not pictured) of Jersey City, an NJCU professor of sport and leisure studies and football strength coach at the University who was a 2000 National Master's Champion in Olympic Lifting, and Mark Cohen (right) of Cliffside Park, an Olympic Weightlifting and Team Maccabi coach who was 2000 and 1999 National Master's Champion in Olympic Lifting. Funded in part through a grant from the NJCU Foundation, "Health & Wellness Week" included free lectures, demonstrations, discussions, and special programs as well as a "Spring Health Fair."



Kobe Bryant File photo

L.A. Laker Kobe Bryant announces engagement

L.A. Lakers' Kobe Bryant, 21, will soon be saying goodbye to the single life. He recently announced his engagement to Vanessa Laine, an 18-year-old senior at Marina High School in Huntington Beach, Ca. The star guard for the Lakers credits Laine for balancing out his highly publicized basketball life. Bryant, who came to the NBA straight out of high school, has lived up to his potential and some. It was reported in "Jet" that he gave Laine a seven-carat engagement ring.

SportsShorts



The New Jersey Historical Society will host the "Newark Baseball Ball" at the new National Network Building at 744 Broad Street on June 9. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for the cocktail hour and exhibition viewing at the New Jersey Historical Society at 152 Park Place, Newark. At 7:30 p.m. dinner will be served and a sports memorabilia silent auction will take place at The Mezzanine at 744 Broad Street, and at 9 p.m. there will be an evening program with a special presentation to Assemblyman Richard H. Bagg, and honors to some of the baseball greats from the Newark Eagles and the Newark Bears. For more information, call (973) 598-8500 ext. 243.

Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp final applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. Boys and girls ages 7 - 19 can apply. Players are selected by invitation only. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill, Bobby Hurley, Antawn Jamison, Christian Laettner, Tom Gugliotta, and Trajan Langdon. Camp locations include: Rochester, NY; Riverside, CA; Babson Park, IL; Atlanta, GA; Champaign, IL; Fort Wayne, IN; Champaign, KS; Georgetown, KY; Northfield, MN; Raleigh, NC; Boiling Springs, NC; North Canton, OH; Commerce, TX; and Farmville, VA. College Basketball Scholarships are possible for players named to The All-American Team. For an evaluation form call (704) 372-6515 ANYTIME.

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